

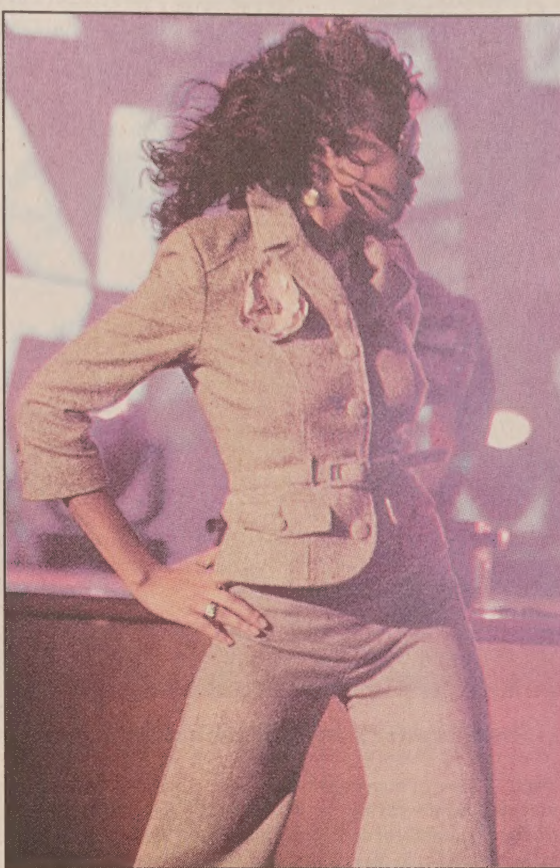
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME CIX, ISSUE 16

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 17, 2005

Students strut the catwalk at the Black Student Union's fashion show



At the BSU fashion show at Shriver Hall, junior Tashell Thompson (left) and Baltimore City College High School student Treyanna Harris (right) model on the runway.

ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Brody, deans hold open forums for students

BY BRENDAN SCHREIBER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Several open meetings scheduled in response to the recent deaths of two Hopkins students failed to achieve a high level of attendance last week, as the University seeks to eliminate the disconnect between students and various administrators.

With the assistance of student leaders and the Student Council, several deans and President Brody planned informal meetings with students in heavily trafficked areas throughout campus in an effort to be "in touch with more of you and to hear what you are thinking

and feeling," according to an e-mail released by Dean of Undergraduate Education Paula Burger to the student body.

Attendance at most meetings was below 10 students, while several failed to draw any students at all.

"The low turnout was a little disappointing," said Burger. "We wanted to put ourselves out there and make our-

selves available, which is why we sent out this e-mail and held an open meeting in the Mattin Center [during Intersection].

"We've had good turnout, especially in the Mattin Center meeting, but the [death of sophomore Dominic Ferrara] made us feel that we should make additional effort," she added.

StuCo also began holding "Friday

Time" at the Silk Road restaurant for similar reasons, but no students attended.

The final meeting of the week, with Brody, his wife Wendy, and Director of the Counseling Center Michael Mond, held in the lobby of Levering Hall, drew five students, which Brody commented was among the largest of the gatherings. He continued the discussion for nearly two hours, despite the scheduled one-hour limit.

Despite low student involvement, several of the deans who hosted meetings felt the turnout was not a sign of student apathy.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2



ALLISON BERKEN/NEWS-LETTER
President Brody speaks to junior residential advisor Candy Breakwood.

Awareness Days examine Islamic world

BY CHARLOTTE BERNARD
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins University Muslim Association hosted its final event for Islam Awareness Days this Wednesday, with a presentation by National Muslim Students Association President Hadia Mubarak titled "Liberation and Incarceration? Women in Islam."

Every year, the JHUMA sponsors Islam Awareness Days to promote diversity and dispel misconceptions about Islam.

"The main intention of Islam Awareness Days is to show the truth about Islam," said JHUMA vice-president Sameer Ahmed. "A lot of times people who aren't Muslim learn the lies about Islam and attribute them to be the truth."

Ahmed added, "There is always a need for awareness, because Islam is one of the misunderstood religions."

Mubarak, a master's student in Women and Gender studies at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, spoke about feminism and female roles in Islam.

Her speech primarily focused on the misconceptions of the Islamic religion in hopes of "enlightening people with education."

Mubarak first commented on these misconceptions, based on Muslim extremists, suicide bombers and the "circumcised women on Oprah."

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2

Professors win science awards

BY DAVID CORRIGAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Two members of the Hopkins faculty, Dr. Riccardo Giacconi and Dr. Solomon Snyder, have won the National Medal of Science, the nation's most distinguished award for contributions in the field of science.

The two are among eight scientists chosen by the National Science Foundation to receive this prestigious award, which will be presented to them by President Bush on March 14, at the White House.

Giacconi works at the Kreiger School of Arts &

Sciences, in the physics department, and has been a member of the faculty since 1981. Dean Jonathan Bagger, chair of the Physics and Astronomy Department, said that Giacconi is known as the "Father of X-ray astronomy," which utilizes x-rays to study the universe.

In 1962, Giacconi discovered the first cosmic X-ray source with a satellite developed by the research team he led. He also proved that the universe contains background radiation of X-ray light.

"Dr. Giacconi has an immensely broad perspective on

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2

CHAI kicks off Israel Week SAIS professor speaks on future of Mideast politics

BY SAMMY ROSE SALTZMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Coalition of Hopkins Activists for Israel began its Israel Week activities on Tuesday night with a speech by Eliot Cohen, a professor at Hopkins's School of Advanced International Studies, who spoke on the future of the Middle East.

Cohen's talk, held in the Clipper Room in Shriver Hall, was one of nine events scheduled for CHAI's Israel Week. All of the events are to focus on a variety of topics, ranging from Israeli culture to the Mideast conflict.

"The goal of the Israel Week is really to offer Hopkins students an opportunity to see and experience the many fascinating facets of Israeli life, while simultaneously giving them an opportunity to contribute to Israel," said junior Ilya Bourtnan, presi-

dent of CHAI.

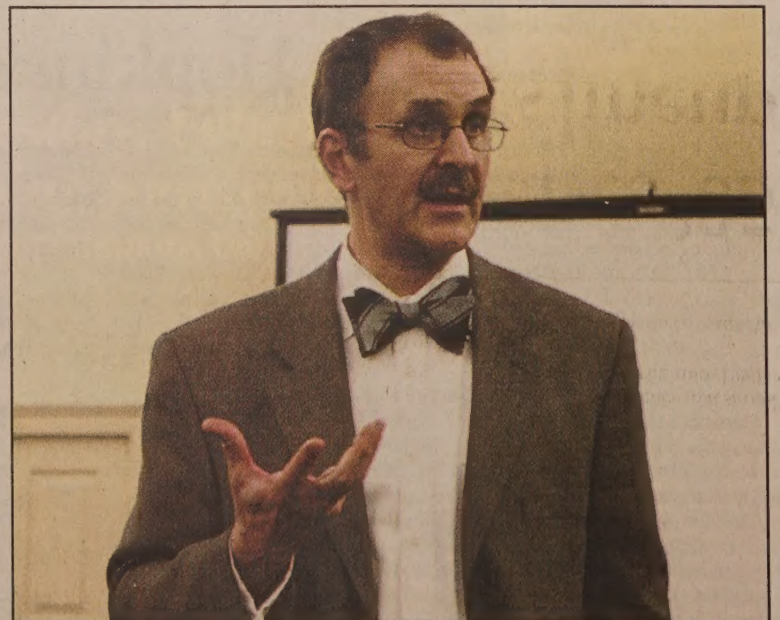
"For the politically-minded, we brought Eliot Cohen to speak. For the more musical, we're traveling to D.C. tonight for a concert," said sophomore Maytal Saltiel, CHAI's liaison to the Jewish Student Association. "Israel Week was created to share different sides of Israeli society."

During Israel Week, CHAI will promote summer trips to Israel, after-school teaching program and fund-raising activities. Along with Hopkins Hillel and a host of others, CHAI sponsors two-week service trips to Israel.

For many students, Israel Week is an opportunity to learn about Israeli culture and a chance to discuss politics in the Middle East, particularly the Israel-Palestine conflict.

"Israel week is something to show students

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

During Israel Week, professor Elliot Cohen praised Israel for recent improvements.

JHU to solicit advice at Penn

Hopkins security representatives set to examine video surveillance system

BY PATRICE HUTTON
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

As part of Johns Hopkins' efforts to improve campus security, school officials will travel to the University of Pennsylvania later this month to examine its video surveillance system and search for ways to further protect against criminal activity on and off campus.

Hopkins Security Director Ron Mullen said this visit is the result of both student requests and a contract with iXP Corp., the same organization that designed Penn's security systems.

"We listened to our students who told us they wanted Hopkins to be more like Penn when it came to emergency phones and CCTV," Mullen said.

"[This is] a chance to see a system in use, evaluate it, and

learn more about what goes into its installation and operation," said Hopkins spokesman Dennis O'Shea.

According to Penn's vice president of public safety, Maureen Rush, "Hopkins is going to use [Penn] as a case study to look at because we had similar issues with violence back in the mid-1990s."

"I also think that we are a very similar environment [to that of Hopkins]. I think there are some similarities in the campus layout and we will make an excellent comparative study for them to look at,"

Rush said. Penn installed a video surveillance system following a wave of violence that shook the campus in the mid-1990s, including the murders of two

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

SECURING
HOPKINS

FAS releases '05 speakers lineup

BY JULIANNA FINELLI
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Foreign Affairs Symposium announced its 2005 speaker lineup this week, with a program focused on conflict resolution and the role of the United States in regional disputes around the world.

Among the list of speakers are Tiananmen Square student leader Dan Wang, General William Nash of the Council on Foreign Relations, and various representatives from the French Embassy in Washington, D.C.

The FAS directors chose a panel format for this year's symposium, deviating from the tradition of hosting individual speakers. Their intention was to shorten speeches and leave more time for audience ques-

tions. "Our mission is to promote open dialogue for anyone who wants to participate," said FAS co-chair Neil Shah.

Entitled "Enduring Responsibility: America and the Politics of Conflict Resolution," this year's symposium will focus on U.S. involvement in major international conflicts.

"We decided to have panels to present the different sides of regional conflicts, and also to examine the United States' role in either exacerbating or alleviating them," said co-chair Yonina Alexander.

"In addition to focusing on those conflicts people are talking about, we will also focus on areas people have stopped talking about."

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

SPORTS The full Nelson

Men's Basketball coach Bill Nelson recently reached a career milestone of 300 wins. Find out more about why his program works. Page A12.



A12

SCIENCE The next Hubble?

With the aging Hubble Space Telescope set to be abandoned in a few years, learn about what Hopkins scientists hope to do next. Page A8.



A8

SPECIAL ISSUE Best of Baltimore

We've scoured the city for the best in dining, entertainment, services and more. Check out our special insert for the best this city has to offer.



THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER
PUBLISHED SINCE 1896

Main Phone Number • 410.516.6000
Business/Advertising • 410.516.4228
e-mail • News.Letter@jhu.edu

NEWS

Awareness days aim to dispel myths

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

She even joked about the stereotypes related to her hijab, the scarves many Muslim women wear to cover their heads.

"No, I do not wear a waterproof rag," Mubarak said, but added that she acknowledged her hijab as an important expression of her self-confidence and faith. "I relish in the freedom the hijab gives me not to be objectified."

Commenting on negative stereotypes about Muslim women's rights, Mubarak noted that Islam should be judged by its own sources. "In Islam, law never contradicts logic," she said.

Mubarak added that the practices against women in countries like Pakistan relate to both the countries' specific cultures and improper interpretations of the Qur'an.

She gave several examples of misinterpretation of the Qur'an, including the religious justification of domestic abuse toward women. In the Qur'an, Mubarak stated, the reference to beating a wife is used in the context of restricting the abuse of one's wife.

She followed this example by describing a Muslim woman's specific role. According to Mubarak, Islam historically held a reputation for respecting women and was responsible for a paradigm shift toward equality in the Middle East.

Reading passages from the Qur'an, Mubarak noted three main components of the historical shift toward equality, the first being the belief that women were equal to men before God.

According to Mubarak, the second was that Islam also abolished female infanticide and recognized the importance of women in society, whereas women were previously considered burdens to the economy.

Mubarak's final distinction was the concept of original sin, in which Islam differed from Judeo-Christian values.

"[In Islam] you are responsible for what you have done," Mubarak said.

She added that although in the Christian Bible women were expelled from



Sister Hadia Mubarak spoke Thursday night on the role of women in Islam, as part of Islam Awareness Days.

heaven and punished through menstruation and childbearing for accepting temptation, the Muslim religion believes that both men and women were punished equally for giving in to temptation.

Mubarak noted that some misinterpretations of the Qur'an state that a man is "in charge of a woman," but Mubarak noted that it referred to female safety. Historically, before the Qur'an, men would leave their wives and children penniless.

As a result, Mubarak also noted that women can stipulate anything in the marriage contract including contingencies of marriage; for example, a husband leaving for more than three months, or deciding to have more than one wife, may be grounds for a divorce if stipulated in the contract. Mubarak also described marriage laws and practices proscribed by the Qur'an.

"Islam established women's protection in marriage," she said.

Mubarak added that, according to the Qur'an, a man's duty is to provide for his wife, and it is a woman's choice whether to work or to share her money with her husband.

"The best of you is the one who treats his wife the best," Mubarak said.

After her speech, the JHUMA offered time for questions.

MSA members noted the importance of her speech.

"Mistreatment of women is definitely a problem in many countries and there are still many misconception among Muslims here about the Qur'an," said JHUMA secretary Misu Tasnim, a sophomore.

Other events for Islam Awareness Days included a banquet and discussion on sincerity last Tuesday, a complete overview on Islam and Jihad, and even an introduction to different types of Islamic art and calligraphy.

Harvard professor discusses Yeats' work

BY MARISSA LOWMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Literary critic and Harvard professor Helen Vendler visited Hopkins as part of the Percy Graeme Turnbull Memorial Lecture series last Thursday. As the second speaker in the series this year, Vendler lectured on the work of Irish poet William Butler Yeats.

Writing Seminars poetry professor David Smith introduced Vendler, commenting that "the reason for criticism in the classroom and on the page is that it teaches us how to read."

Vendler lectured to a packed auditorium of around 150 people, most of whom were students. The lecture delved deeply into just one Yeats poem, "Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen."

Vendler began with a short background about Yeats's unique long sequence poems, which are composed of stanzas varying in both length and form.

"It's not easy to assemble heterogeneous poems and make them click together," Vendler said.

From the start of the talk, Vendler's lecture included references to Yeats's form, rhythm and rhyme scheme. She spoke in particular about *ottava rima*, an eight-line stanza of heroic verse that Yeats uses frequently in his poems.

According to Vendler, the Yeatsian model of irregular sequences influenced many future Irish poets. Each poem is both free-standing and linked to the other poems through parallel structure and a common theme.

"Form has ideological radiance for Yeats," Vendler said.

Vendler incorporated details about both the historical and political contexts of Yeats's six-part poem. Despite the title, which dates the poem as having been written in 1919, "Nineteen Hundred and Nineteen" was actually completed in 1921.

It is set during the 1921-22 civil war in Ireland, when the Irish rebelled against British rule.

According to Vendler, Yeats, who was an Irish Protestant, sympathized with Irish independence, but also to some degree with England, and was unable to find a clear reason for the two countries to stop fighting one another.

However, Vendler considered the "enigma of origin," rather than the events in Ireland, to be the true subject of the poem.

"Yeats was perplexed by the human potential for violence," said Vendler, who made frequent references to the debate about free will versus determinism.

According to Vendler, Yeats believed that humans were full of contradictions, and another major subject of the poem was the tendency of humans to constantly strive for goals and objects beyond their reach.

Vendler said that Yeats used Ireland as a microcosm for the presence of violence in all societies and made reference to other societies, such as ancient Greece and Palestine, where decapitation and sacrifice were the norm, to strengthen his argument.

"Poems are not exhausted by the events that haunt them," Vendler said.

Vendler added that the poem's theme can be compared to another, more famous Yeats poem entitled "Easter 1916," about the British leaders who executed Irish leaders of the Easter rising.

Vendler also compared the six sections of the poem to stations.

"You sit down and have something new happen. You don't stay at the same place during the poem," she said.

Vendler also expressed the belief that Yeats intended to show that violence in Ireland was a result of the eruption of unfulfilled sexual desire.

Furthermore, Vendler posited that Yeats believed one should admit his or her irrational impulses, both sexual and violent.

In addition to having published multiple books of literary criticism, Vendler has taught at Smith College, Swarthmore College, and Cornell University, among other institutions.

Vendler has been the A. Kingsley Porter Professor of English at Harvard for the past 20 years. For two decades, she was the poetry reviewer at the *New Yorker*. She has received three National Endowment for Humanities fellowships as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her field of scholarship ranges from the 16th to the 21st century.

Counseling Ctr. to offer walk-in appointments

In response to recent deaths, Center changes scheduling policies to accommodate students

BY JOSEPH HO

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In response to the recent deaths on campus, the Hopkins Counseling Center has made changes intended to provide more accessibility to students. Services at the Center are now available to students without requiring appointments.

"We have seen a lot of people that way in the last week," said Counseling Center Director Michael Mond.

"On our 24/7 emergency call service, we received at least one call every night last week."

The Center has also conducted workshops with several groups of students who might have been impacted by the deaths, and have held open meetings with students with questions about psychological matters.

"The recent increase in the number of visits has put a heavy stress on us," said Mond.

Apart from direct services such as individual therapy, psychiatrists' visits, medication checks, individual consultation and group therapy, the Center also organizes outreach programs, workshops, training, and various community and professional development activities.

In 2003-2004, the Center spent around 63 percent of the total service hours on direct services.

The Counseling Center serves both students and non-student patients.

Statistics have shown that students visiting the center raise issues about careers, academics, eating disorders and sexual issues.

The non-student population includes administrative staff, faculty and parents who are worried about students and seek help to work with these students.

"Most problems [students raise] are not serious clinical problems. Most are issues with identity, career, development, who they are, what they're good at, how to date, how to take good risks in life, how to build relationships," said Mond.

Research conducted by the Center has shown that the therapy services have helped students.

For instance, according to Mond, students who participated in a 12-session therapy program reported significant decreases in the frequency of "thoughts of ending your life."

While the Hopkins Counseling Center offers a range of technical and

professional services from individual therapy to psychiatrists' visits, A Place to Talk, a peer counseling group on campus, provides student-to-student service.

"We provide peer counseling service, or more like peer listening service," said senior Ayla Turnquist, director of APTT.

"When people have something on their minds and want to talk about it, we're here Sundays through Thursdays, 7 p.m. until midnight."

Led by Clare King, the clinical program manager of the Counseling Center, APTT has been operating for 22 years.

The group has also seen various changes throughout the years. It first started off in a room in the basement of AMR II, and later moved to a room in the library.

Before settling in their current stay in AMR I, they were located in Levering Hall.

Presently, they are trying to work with the administration to see if they could get a room reserved in the Charles Commons.

"It would be a more central area since at present we mostly have freshmen in the area. We're here for other students as well," remarked Turnquist.

At present, the group has 30-40 peer counselors.

All of the counselors spend a semester on training to acquire special listening skills.

Usually, the trainees meet once a week for several hours and go through role-plays to equip them for different situations that might come up in the room.

"We are a group dedicated to the

student body," said Turnquist.

Turnquist also added, "If somebody is uncomfortable going to the Counseling Center, or had a bad experience there, it might be easier and more approachable to come here."

Students visit the rooms on all sorts of issues ranging from roommate problems, breakups, depressions, family issues, problems with classes, or even suicidal tendencies.

A lot of times, they may stop by just to hang out or to talk with a particular counselor they feel comfortable talking with.

"Most people felt it a comfortable place - safe and welcoming," said Turnquist.

"It's just a more approachable place for people especially if this is the first time you want to talk to somebody," added Puri.

Two Hopkins scientists honored

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

the future of astronomy. We look forward to working with him in the future and congratulate him on this award," Bagger said.

Giacconi received the Nobel Prize for Physics in 2002 for his advances in X-ray astronomy.

At the ceremony in December of 2002, Professor Per Carlson introduced the recipient, saying, "Giacconi's achievements in X-ray astronomy have dramatically changed our view of the universe."

"The universe not only contains stars and constellations in slow development, but also hosts rapidly evolving compact objects which release enormous amounts of energy. Of particular interest is the possibility of indirectly detecting black holes."

Giacconi is one of the early members of the Hopkins Space Telescope Institute, of which he was the founding director from 1981 until 1993. He was also the president of Associated

Universities, Inc.

Snyder, who won the medal for biological sciences, is the director of the neuroscience department at Hopkins Medical School.

He is known by some as the "godfather of synaptic chemistry," winning the Institute of Medicine's 2001 Sarnat International Prize in Mental Health, and the prestigious Lasker Award in 1978 for "his pioneering work in identifying the opiate receptors and the demonstration of their relation to the enkephalins."

His work focuses on neurotransmitters, and has led to many changes in our fundamental understanding of the brain, helping in the development of many medicines and treatment for various neurological diseases.

President Brody summed Snyder's accomplishments up by saying, "It is safe to say that his work in the lab has improved the lives of millions of people everywhere in the world."

Snyder credited his students with

much of the work behind the award. "Receiving such an award for a lifetime's work is more an acknowledgment of my wonderful students over the years than of myself," he said.

"I have been blessed with extraordinary graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, as well as with remarkable Hopkins undergraduates who work in the summer or during electives."

He also credited the research atmosphere at Hopkins for helping in his work, saying, "The collegial aspect of Hopkins enables students in our own lab to link informally and productively with labs all over the University, amplifying considerably whatever ideas we have in our small operation."

The National Medal of Science was established in 1959 by Congress, and honors "individuals in a variety of fields for pioneering scientific research that has led to a better understanding of the world around us, as well as the innovations and technologies that give the United States its global economic edge."

Since 1962, when the first awards were presented, only 409 scientists have received the National Medal of Science.

Giacconi and Snyder are the seventh and eighth Hopkins faculty members to receive this award, and the first to do so in three years.

VCU

School of Social Work

Northern Virginia Master of Social Work Program

Take your professional future to the next level with a Master of Social Work from a top-ranked social work program in Northern Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work — a proven national leader in social work education rooted in the realities of life. Our professors write the textbooks; our graduates foster growth and inspire change.

We offer:

- convenient location.
- easy access to the Metro and free parking.
- emphasis on student-faculty collaboration.
- rich field placements.

Register now for an on-site information session:
 Tuesday, Feb. 22, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
 Monday, March 21, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
<http://www.vcu.edu/shwweb> or call (703) 823-4130 or (800) 450-8595

For more information:
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Northern Virginia Master of Social Work Program
 6295 Edsall Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22312
an equal opportunity/affirmative action university 041110-01

Virginia Commonwealth University

ERRATA

In the Feb. 10 article, "Red Creek has a good flow," Hallie Pobanz should be listed as junior, not as a senior.

The News-Letter regrets this error.

Tsunami relief abounds at Hopkins

Security upgrades to include cameras

BY CHRISTOPHER SACCHETTI
 THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

With the death toll in Africa and Asia well over 140,000 following December's tsunami, the Johns Hopkins University and many of its student organizations have been doing what they can to contribute to humanitarian efforts in the region. Many students and university affiliates returned after Intercession firmly resolved to work to improve the lives of the victims of the tsunami.

Assistance has swarmed in from every corner of the Hopkins community, ranging from the Student Council to the Bloomberg School of Public Health. Divisions of the university and even individual students have contributed to aid efforts as well.

"There are many groups on campus who have become involved in helping tsunami victims," said junior Prasra Gomutputra, a member of the Thai Society.

"We have been working with and have had meetings with Student Council, the Red Cross, and several fraternities in order to make Johns Hopkins realize that one dollar, just one American dollar, can buy two meals or a textbook," she added.

The Student Council, JHPIEGO (an international health organization sponsored by Johns Hopkins), faculty members from both SAIS and the Whiting School of Engineering, as well as The Thai Society have each taken part.

Several students, faculty, and alumni are working to appropriate funds and resources, and combining forces in order to improve the lives of the tsunami victims. The Pakistani Students Association plans to host tsunami relief forums, and StuCo will be running a wrist band campaign to raise money.

Gomutputra recalled what she considered deeply troubling images she had seen in the media, in which mothers in Thailand were forced to choose between children, as their arms could only hold the weight of two small bodies when waves crashed against them.

The Thai Society met and decided to help educate children of South Thailand who had lost parents and relatives. When they heard that the

King of Thailand was willing to adopt these orphaned children, they coordinated a raffle and donated the proceeds to the King's Foundation, a government scholarship program dedicated to giving orphaned students a better education.

The Society also plans to take a trip in the near future and visit some high schools in southern Thailand to better assess the needs of Thailand's educational system. Gomutputra and the Thai Society hope to assist these schools by purchasing tables, desks, and computers.

In order to make these initiatives a reality, the Society has been hosting, and will continue to host, a raffle to help raise awareness and charitable donations. The prizes for these raffles consist of various gift certificates to local restaurants in and around the Great Baltimore area.

Johns Medical School professors of Sri Lankan descent and the Bloomberg School of Public Health have also joined the cause.

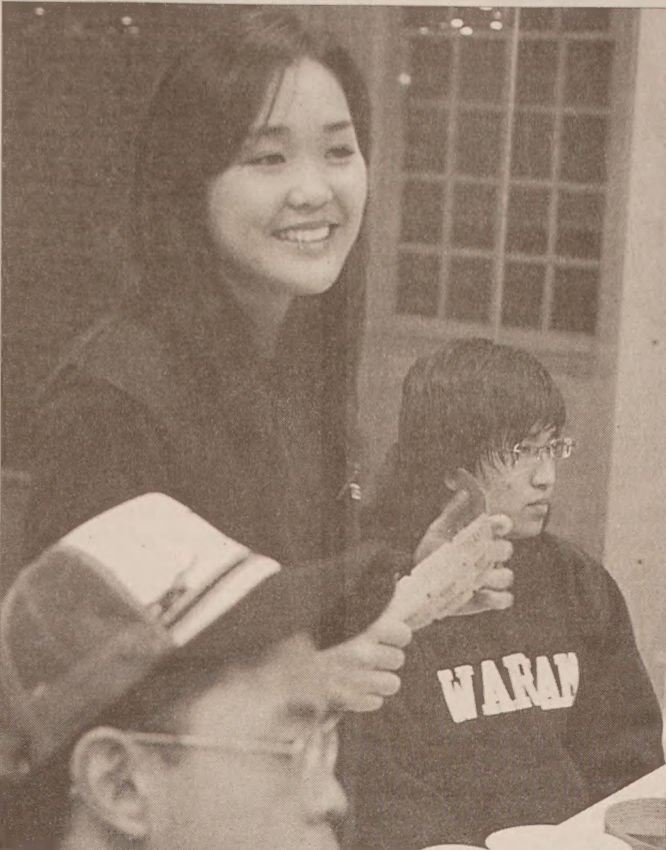
Through its Center for International Emergency, BSPH is working on relief efforts in Indonesia and has deploying a team of emergency fund-physicians and nurses to work with the International Rescues Committee.

According to the *Hopkins Gazette*, "Fundraising efforts have been begun by both the Southeast Asia Studies program, which will support relief efforts in Thailand and Indonesia, and the South Asia Studies program, which will direct funds to the fishermen community in Sri Lanka."

The result of the work of these two groups is a five-thousand dollar charitable contribution to those affected by the recent natural disaster.

Gomutputra commented that Hopkins students need to understand that the devastation caused by the tsunami in Southern Thailand "is an uphill battle—a long-term battle that is not simply solved by one donation, but from several installments of active involvement and social campaigning."

Freshman Thai Society member Vareeya Thangnirundr echoed Gomutputra's sentiment. "The problem is actually a long-term struggle; we need students and or-



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER
Freshman Vareeya Thangnirundr sells tickets for the Thai Society's raffle, the proceeds from which will go toward tsunami relief in Southeast Asia.

ganizations that are willing to assess the situation and look to the future in order to make a difference in people's lives."

Freshman Sabrina Must brought nearly 200 t-shirts containing the words "Tsunami Relief" to campus and has been selling them at Terrace and Wolman for ten dollars each to students who are willing to buy a t-shirt for the good cause of feeding or sheltering a starving or homeless family.

The proceeds for Must's efforts will be donated to a charity called Global Quest. Must predicts that her efforts will produce approximately 1,000 dollars of charitable aid. "By selling something, I hope to bring some sensitivity to this tragedy," Must said.

One of her older sisters is currently overseas in India and is experiencing

each and every day what we as Johns Hopkins have only read about in newspapers and seen on the television screen.

In wake of all of these social projects, the Johns Hopkins University Center for Social Concern is worried that student organizations will compete for charitable donations and favors. But most of those involved feel that students are collaborating with one another in order to reach as many people through charity as possible.

Gomutputra continued, "Our priority is to raise the money and donations for these victims, not to promote our own organization. We all feel affected by this tragedy and we feel that this university, as a whole, can make an impact on the lives of hundreds of individuals overseas."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
 Penn students within 26-months of each other. These attacks led to the eventual implementation of a video surveillance system similar to the system that Hopkins plans to deploy.

Since Penn's installation of surveillance cameras in 1996, crime reports have decreased by nearly 50 percent. No murders have occurred within the campus patrol area since that time.

Also since the inclusion of the new system, Penn's security expenditures rose to \$14 million per year.

After the death of senior Linda Trinh, Hopkins announced that it would allot an additional \$2 million towards security, totaling \$6 million.

However, Mullen said, "The integrated CCTV system that Homewood has planned for implementation will surpass the capability of the UPenn system.

"Our system will involve the use of smart CCTV—cameras that will be programmed to alert the system monitors of certain activities or behaviors that may come into a camera's view."

Mullen added, "The Hopkins system will be today's state-of-the-art system using proven technology, just as Penn's system was state-of-the-art at the time it was installed."

O'Shea agreed: "UPenn installed a video surveillance system several years ago and they say it has worked well for them.

"So, even though the technology they have is a little older than what we're considering, clearly it is a place whose experience we can learn from."

O'Shea also noted that Hopkins

officials hope to learn from iXP Corp, who installed Penn's surveillance system and will be working with Hopkins on security upgrades.

"The company [Penn] used to design, install and, for several years manage their system is the company that we have been using as our consultant, so there is a good sense that we will be comparing the apples Penn has to the apples we are considering, rather than two unlike systems," O'Shea said.

"We contracted with iXP corp in the spring of 2004 to design for us an integrated security services system that would involve CCTV, emergency phones and communications strategies," Mullen added.

He continued, "iXP designed and implemented Penn's CCTV and emergency phone system. iXP also staffed and managed Penn's communications and monitoring center for three years. And, iXP continues to provide Penn technical support necessary for keeping their system in peak operating order."

O'Shea noted that Hopkins officials also recently visited the Constellation Energy Group's operations center in Owings Mills in order to observe their video surveillance system, which was also designed by iXP Corp.

"This practical knowledge of Penn's experience will help us to implement our integrated system in a more expeditious manner," Mullen said

Rush and other Penn security officials will be facilitating the visit of Hopkins officials.

Representatives from security, student life, and facilities will represent Hopkins during the visit to Penn.

This practical knowledge of Penn's experience will help us to implement our integrated system in a more expeditious manner.

— RONALD MULLEN,
 DIRECTOR OF SECURITY

Sweet Retreat Café

3215 N. Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21218
Tel. (410) 235-3311

We Will Soon Be Serving Breakfast and Lunch

Featuring Such Food Items As...

Freshly Squeezed Juices
Gourmet Style Sandwiches
Breakfast Platters
Bagels
Salads
A Variety of Soups
Gelato (Italian Ice Cream)
Pastry and Cakes

The Jewish Students Association, the Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program, and HOP present:

Comedy Night with

Hopkins alum, Med School drop-out, Crank Yankers writer, comedic sensation

Wednesday, February 23
8 p.m. Shriver Hall
Johns Hopkins University

Free with college ID,
\$3 at door without

For more information contact jsa@jhu.edu

Co-sponsored by Hillel of Greater Baltimore, HSA Programming Collaboration Committee, Hopkins Hillel, Office of Alumni Relations, the Homewood Arts Programs and the Iranian Cultural Society

NEWS

Attendance low at talks with officials

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"I don't feel it's necessarily a dire symptom," said Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell. "Some students already have all the information they need and don't have any more questions. Others were likely to be busy with other things and had no time to come."

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Andrew Douglas added, "These are not necessarily good forums for pushing the personal security agenda. We were giving people an opportunity to talk to us and see where we stand. If students find that they're already well-informed by student leaders and others, then I don't think it's a problem."

Burger noted that this is not the first instance of students failing to turn out for programs that administrators felt would benefit students. She specifically cited efforts to build community among humanities majors, which failed to do so, despite complaints that the university does not focus enough attention on this portion of the student body.

"So many e-mails are sent out that students get lost in them," Burger said. "Whether anyone even read the e-mail I'm not sure. We have to find better ways to communicate to the students."

Boswell was more optimistic, saying, "For those who wanted to take advantage of the meetings, they certainly did. Philosophically we're trying to be responsible and available, and we're all delighted to do this."

She added that students were likely overwhelmed by the events of the past month to the extent that many preferred not to discuss the subject.

Adam Falk, interim Dean of the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences said, "These are always hard meetings to get students to attend. Often students feel nervous about coming, so I wouldn't be too hard on them. I've had very good discussions with several students in other contexts."

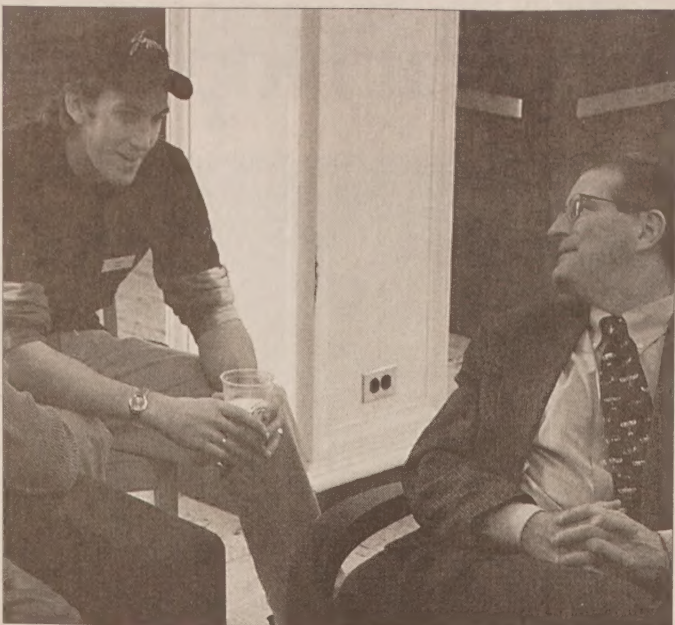
Some students have commented that the university expects them to be more responsible than they actually are, according to Associate Dean of Students Dorothy Sheppard.

"It's hard to tell someone that you can't let them into your building because you don't know them, especially

when you want to foster a friendly atmosphere. I still don't know why some people don't lock their doors, though."

Though the university plans to continue hosting these meetings throughout the year, their frequency and focus will depend on the level of interest the student body expresses.

Burger commented that there is hope for the opening of communications between the two parties. "The conversations we've had were quality discussions, and were worth having. If students didn't have anything to say then I would be worried. We're going to continue to try a variety of things, and I think there are way we can sift through this difficulty."



ALLISON BERKEN/NEWS-LETTER
President Brody speaks to sophomore Gregory Kearns at one of several meetings last week intended to connect students with administrators.

Israel Week honors history, culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

that Israel is more than a headline," sophomore Sarah David said.

Addressing the political aspects of Israel Week, Cohen spoke to Hopkins students about the different parties involved in the Middle East conflict — Israel, the United States, the Arab world and Europe — and their roles in ensuring a resolution is reached.

He said that one of the most important things people need to do when thinking about the Middle East, specifically Israel, is to "learn how to be detached and analytic about things that people feel very passionate about."

Cohen also highlighted the progress Israel has made in the past 50 years.

"[Israel] has become a much more normal and mature state," he said. "It will never be completely normal, but it is a lot more normal than it used to be."

In addition, Cohen focused on how the United States' relationship with the conflict in the Middle East has changed.

"The US-Israel relationship has gotten stronger and stronger over time," he said, noting how America's

need for oil and the political influence of Evangelical Christians have only brought the U.S. closer to the situation in the Middle East.

Regardless of its past, Cohen said, "the Middle East is really at a crossroads. We have to accept that we live in a very unstable world."

After his talk, Cohen answered questions from students.

Sophomore Sarah David expressed admiration for Cohen's balanced view. "I thought that the way he put the situation on the middle east in both a historical and global context was very beneficial," David said.

A SAIS professor, Cohen is also the director of the school's Center for Strategic Studies.

Cohen has served on the Defense Policy Board, the Pentagon's in-house think tank, and has published numerous books and articles.

Harvard University awarded its first Huntington Prize to Cohen's most recent book, *Supreme Command: Soldiers, Statesmen and Leadership in Wartime*.

Israel Week will continue with a range of activities for Hopkins students. On Wednesday night, CHAI drove students to Washington, D.C.,

for a \$12 fee to attend a concert with Israeli rock musician Idan Raichel.

On Thursday evening, CHAI will host a study session, including refreshments and Israeli music, at the Hillel Smokler Center.

The Shabbat dinner to be held on Friday night is Israel-themed, and there will be student presentations and general information about CHAI's Israel trips.

CHAI will also host a Shabbat lunch and current events discussion on Saturday afternoon, and at night will organize a gathering for students to smoke hookah, a common Israeli pastime.

In a JSA e-mail, CHAI members told students about its Sunday "soap-box series on terrorism, diversity and democracy for the student sharing coalition, teaching high school students about real world issues."

Monday will feature an open-invitation CHAI meeting, and on Tuesday students will be raising money for Israel at the National Jewish Fund's phone-a-thon.

"I'm most excited for Israel Shabbat, because first, I love Shabbat and celebrating it with the community here," Saltiel said

Chinese dissident to speak at FAS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ing about, such as the Balkans and, until recently, most of Africa," Shah said. "So much is going on in the world, which is why we have such a diverse range of events."

Alexander said she felt one of the symposium's highlights will be Dan Wang, a student leader during the 1989 Tianenman Square uprising. Wang served as vice-commander for the protest, and was arrested and sentenced to four years imprisonment for his involvement.

"He's fourth on the most-wanted list from China," Alexander said. "He'll examine Chinese human rights, in which he's very involved both there and in the U.S."

Retired U.S. General William Nash, who served as a military commander in Bosnia-Herzegovina and as administrator for the United Nations in Kosovo, will speak on "The Balkans: Keeping the Peace," along with Serbian Ambassador to the U.S. Ivan Vujacic.

French Ambassador to the U.S. Jean-David Levitte and British Ambassador to the U.S., Sir David Manning, will speak on "Bridging the Atlantic Divide."

"After having been in Europe for a bit and seeing for myself how Europeans react to the U.S., it should be exciting to have several representatives here," Shah said.

Africa Director at Human Rights Watch Peter Takirambudde will speak on "Defining Genocide in Africa," and "Kashmir: Paradise Lost?" will feature three different speakers, including Mohammad Sadiq, deputy chief of mission at the Embassy of Pakistan.

"A lot went into planning the chemistry among the panel members, because many of them have differing

viewpoints," Shah said. "The dialogue should be better as a result."

Last year, the original FAS lineup included several prominent speakers, including CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer, Delaware Senator Joseph Biden, and then-presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich, all of whom cancelled.

"It's always hard when you're dealing with important people," Alexander said. "Part of the reason we restructured our staff was to focus efforts more directly and to establish relationships with potential guests."

According to Alexander, this year's chairs "pre-chose regions that we wanted discussed, and broke up [the staff] into committees based on these choices."

Although the symposium staff conceded that this year's speakers are less well-known than some in years past, they are pleased that the lineup is "bringing the real intellectuals behind each conflict to Hopkins," according to co-chair Preeti Balakrishnan.

"These are the guys who are on the ground, doing work in the field," Alexander added.

The symposium will kick off on Wednesday, Feb. 23 with "Recognizing Cuba?" which will feature Adolfo A. Franco, assistant administrator for the Latin America Region at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The event will take place at 8 p.m. in Mudd Hall.

The symposium, which features a new event each week, will run until April 19, when Deputy Editor at the *New York Times* Julia Preston wraps up the series with "Mexico: Forgotten Neighbor, Forgotten Democracy." For event times and locations, go to <http://www.jhu.edu/~fas/>.

— Staff writer Brendan Schreiber contributed to this article.

We will also focus on areas people have stopped talking about, such as the Balkans and, until recently, most of Africa.

— NEIL SHAH, FAS CO-CHAIR

Anything less is partial prep.

Take Kaplan and get complete preparation for the LSAT.

- Proven results
- The best teachers
- 24/7 online access to materials
- Access to all released LSAT Prep Tests
- In-class practice quizzes
- Higher Score Guarantee
- Quiet study center
- Free extra help
- Lessons-on-DemandSM — free online make-ups
- Realistic practice
- Most practice materials

Location: Hopkins Inn

Mon 3/21 4pm	Sat 3/26 11am	Mon 3/28 4pm	Mon 4/4 4pm	Sat 4/9 11am	Mon 4/11 4pm	Mon 4/18 4pm	Sat 4/23 11am	Tue 4/26 4pm	Mon 5/2 4pm	Sat 5/7 11am	Mon 5/9 4pm
--------------------	---------------------	--------------------	-------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------	--------------------	-------------------	--------------------	-------------------

KAPLAN®

Test Prep and Admissions

Call today!

1-800-KAP-TEST
kaptest.com

NEWS

AROUND THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS

Voting machine upgrades saved 1 million votes in 2004 presidential election

WASHINGTON (AP) — Improvements to voting machines and election administration saved a million votes that otherwise would likely have gone uncounted in the 2004 elections, with states and counties that made the most comprehensive upgrades recovering the most votes, a new academic analysis says.

The report released Monday by the Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project looked at a key measure of election integrity — residual votes, or ballots cast during an election on which voters failed to mark a choice or machines did not record it.

In every election, some voters intentionally leave the presidential contest blank, possibly as a protest or because they're uninterested. But experts estimate that should be, on average, roughly half of one percent of all ballots, and anything above that is likely caused by flaws with design, equipment or voter education.

In 2000, the national residual vote was 1.9 percent of ballots cast for president. The report found a significant improvement this year, with the residual vote falling to 1.1 percent. The analysis examined 37 states and the District of Columbia; figures were unavailable elsewhere.

Basing the calculations on that change, the report concluded that of the slightly more than 122 million Americans who voted for president in November, roughly 1,030,000 voters were likely to have mistakenly left their ballots blank.

The report "provides some corrective to what's getting to be a common interpretation of this election, which is that the election was deeply flawed and things were worse in 2004 than in 2000," said Charles Stewart III, the report's author and a Massachusetts Institute of Technology political science professor.

"By this measure — which is a measure that people were trying to improve on — things were significantly better in 2004 than in 2000," he said.

— Robert Tanner
The Associated Press

Edu. Secretary suggests universities use No Child Left Behind standard

WASHINGTON (AP) — Colleges should use President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act for K-12 students as a model for measuring university performance and cutting the minority achievement gap on their campuses, Education Secretary Margaret Spellings said Monday.

"One of our biggest challenges is a lack of compatible and comprehensive measurements — the kind of information parents have come to expect from K-12 schools," Spellings told the annual meeting of the American Council on Education.

In her first speech since becoming a member of Bush's Cabinet, Spellings said she has been experiencing the college admissions process firsthand as the mother of a high-school senior.

"Parents see a mosaic of fine higher-ed institutions, each with wonderful qualities, but find it difficult to piece the puzzle together," said Spellings, who was Bush's chief education adviser in Texas and his domestic policy adviser inside the White House before becoming education secretary.

She said the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act, which requires annual state testing in third through eighth grades in reading and math, has improved K-12 academic performance by giving educators data to identify students falling through the cracks.

"Students and post-secondary institutions should view it as a model as you work to close your own achievement gap," she told the college presidents and other high-ranking college officials.

Spellings also tried to sell the group Bush's budget proposal, which calls for an increase in the maximum Pell Grant award of \$100 each of the next five years, to a total of \$4,550. But college leaders gathered here have expressed concern about other aspects of the president's budget, including changes in student loan policies and cuts to federal TRIO programs that support students.

Spellings left without taking questions from the group.

— Justin Pope
The Associated Press

Federal judge dismisses Baltimore Sun lawsuit against Governor Ehrlich

BALTIMORE (AP) — A federal judge ruled Monday that Gov. Robert Ehrlich can freeze out two reporters from *The Baltimore Sun* by barring all state employees from talking to the journalists.

U.S. District Judge William Quarles dismissed the newspaper's lawsuit, saying the paper wrongly asserted a greater right to access to government officials than private citizens have.

"The right to publish news is expansive. However, the right does not carry with it the unrestrained right to gather information," the judge ruled.

Sun editor Tim Franklin called the ruling "scary" and said the newspaper would seek an expedited hearing from the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ehrlich last fall barred state employees from talking to *The Sun's* State House bureau chief David Nitkin and columnist Michael Olesker. The governor said the two journalists were not objectively covering his administration.

The Sun sued in December, saying the order violated the journalists' First Amendment rights. The state asked that the case be thrown out.

— Wiley Hall
The Associated Press



SASA KRALJ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kurdish leader and aspirant to the position of Iraqi President, Jalal Talibani, left, greets Interim Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Alawi the day before the results of Iraq's election were announced. The Shiite party, backed by Grand Ayatollah Ali Al-Sistani, achieved the greatest electoral wins in Iraq's first democratic election.

Shiites, Kurds prepare to take lead in Iraq

BY JAMIE TARABAY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — After securing the largest bloc in Iraq's new parliament, leaders of the clergy-backed Shiite alliance began talks on their choice for a new prime minister, with the French-educated finance minister and a former London physician said to be the top candidates.

Ahmad Chalabi, the former Pentagon darling has also thrown his name into the contest, but Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, the turbaned cleric who led the ticket and who has close links to Iran, has said he's not interested in the job.

The emergence of urbane, Westernized figures in a faction that rode to power on the prestige of the country's Shiite clergy appears designed to counter concern in Washington that Iran's influence will grow in Iraq after a Shiite-dominated government takes power — even though the ultimate decision may rest with a reclusive elderly cleric.

In Sunday's results, the clergy-backed United Iraqi Alliance scooped 48 percent of the vote for the National

Assembly, the Kurdish alliance took 26 percent and interim Prime Minister Ayad Alawi, a secular Shiite who supported strong ties to Washington, won only 14 percent. That could make the Kurds, who like the Shiites were oppressed under Saddam Hussein, as kingmakers in the new Iraq.

Backroom trading for the top posts in the new government began in earnest Monday after the United Iraqi Alliance failed to secure the two-thirds majority in the newly elected assembly that would have allowed it to control the legislature and install whomever it wanted as President. The Kurds have already said they want Jalal Talabani, a Sunni Kurd and leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, to be president. No other candidates have stepped forward.

The National Assembly's first task is to elect a president and two vice presidents by a two-thirds majority. The three then choose a new prime minister subject to assembly approval.

The parties that make up the alliance — the Islamic Dawa Party, the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq and Chalabi's Iraqi National Congress,

huddled for talks to decide on a prime ministerial candidate.

Interim Vice President Ibrahim al-Jaafari was the Dawa Party's choice, while SCIRI nominated Adel Abdul-Mahdi, the interim finance minister, said Humam Hamoudi, a spokesman for the United Iraqi Alliance. He said the alliance would decide on Tuesday.

But it may ultimately be Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani who decides. Al-Sistani's tacit endorsement is believed to have led to the Alliance electoral victory.

An official in al-Sistani's office said that representatives from the alliance would visit the elderly cleric on Tuesday but he has not endorsed anyone.

Since the Shiites fell short of the two-thirds majority needed to dictate their choice for president and prime minister, they may seek a deal with the Kurds, who won 26 percent of the vote, to back Talabani for president in return for Kurdish support for their prime ministerial choice.

The Kurds have demanded that the new constitution legalize Kurdish self-rule in the north. They also want an end to what they call "Arabization" of Kirkuk and other northern areas — a demand which may be tough to accept.

Nations reevaluate ties to nuclear N. Korea

BY BURT HERMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea's revelation that it has atomic weapons was a slap in the face of South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun and emboldened critics to call for a reassessment of his policy of engagement with the communist state.

Opposition lawmakers have lashed out at the government for being too soft on the North in the latest crisis and for saying it will continue aid despite Pyongyang's announcement last week that it has built nuclear weapons and won't participate in disarmament talks.

"When a father wants his son to quit smoking ... shouldn't he stop giving his son money to buy cigarettes?" the Grand National Party's Hong Joon-pyo said in parliament. "Peaceful resolution is good, but the government lacks concrete measures."

Editorial pages of South Korean newspapers have also been filled with demands for Roh to reconsider his policy.

"We ask the government to reflect and find out whether the current situation resulted from its unwarranted optimism that not getting on Pyongyang's nerves would lead to the communist regime giving up its nuclear program and normalizing inter-Korean relations," the JoongAng Ilbo daily wrote.

Since taking office in 2003, Roh has followed the "sunshine" policy of his predecessor Kim Dae-jung — who won the 2000 Nobel Peace Prize for fostering relations with the North that culminated in a landmark summit that year between the South Korean leader and North Korean ruler Kim Jong Il.

The government said Saturday it would continue providing food and fertilizer aid to the North.

"If the situation changes, there would have to be consultations within the government," Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon said Saturday in Washington, according to South Korea's Yonhap news agency.

Although separated by the world's last Cold War frontier lined by nearly 2 million troops, the two Koreas have dramatically boosted ties in recent years — mostly through economic projects that provide the impoverished North with desperately needed cash.

Roh's government is also pushing to abolish the South's anticommunist National Security Law. The Defense Ministry said last month it would stop calling North Korea its "main enemy" in its

military guidelines.

But the moves have drawn strong criticism from the opposition, whose ire over relations with the North has grown since Pyongyang's declaration last week.

North Korea's bargaining tactic of raising tension succeeds because it knows Roh's government "has only carrots and no sticks," the Grand National Party wrote in a Sunday commentary.

The South faces a test soon on whether it will punish the North. Pyongyang has

Bomb blast kills former Lebanese PM

BY BASSEM MROUE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — A powerful bomb tore through the motorcade of a former prime minister Monday, killing him, carving a 30-foot hole in a street and turning armored cars into burning wrecks. The devastation harked back to Lebanon's violent past and raised fears of new bloodshed in the bitter dispute over Syria, the country's chief power broker.

The blast wounded 100 people and killed 10, including the main target: Rafik Hariri, a billionaire businessman who helped rebuild Lebanon after its civil war, but had recently fallen out with Syria.

The United States called the attack "a terrible reminder" that Lebanon still must shake free of occupation by Syria — the neighbor that keeps 15,000 troops here and influences virtually all key political decisions.

Syria denied any role and condemned the assassination. But opposition leaders in Lebanon said they held both the Lebanese and Syrian governments responsible and demanded Syrian troops withdraw.

A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was too early in the investigation to know who was responsible, but said any list of suspects "would have to include the Syrians and their surrogates in Lebanon."

Hariri, 60, left office in October but had

the wealth and the prominence to maintain some degree of independence from Syria, while never moving toward total defiance.

His shift toward the opposition in recent months had given a boost to calls for the withdrawal of Syrian troops — and his death silenced an influential and moderate voice that could prove hard to replace.

It was unclear if his killing would delay parliamentary elections that had been expected in April and May.

Top government officials met in emergency session, then instructed the army and internal security forces "to take all necessary measures to control the security situation." The Supreme Council for Defense, which groups the president, Cabinet ministers and military officials, declared three days of national mourning.

Later in the day, the army command announced forces were put on maximum alert and that soldiers and officers were being recalled from vacation or leave. It also said troops were setting up checkpoints and patrolling the streets.

President Emile Lahoud, a longtime rival of Hariri, called his killing "a dark point in our national history." He promised the assassins would be brought to justice.

There were no credible claims of responsibility. A previously unknown group, Support and Jihad in Syria and Lebanon, said in a video broadcast on

asked Seoul for 500,000 tons of fertilizer, its largest-ever request. South Korean officials say no decision has yet been made, but analysts don't expect any immediate move to withhold the aid.

"The South Korean government won't admit that the policy has failed," said Yoo Ho-yeol, a North Korean studies professor at Korea University. "But I think it will soon change its policy little by little as the situation is becoming more difficult for the South."

Al-Jazeera television that it carried out the bombing, which it termed a suicide operation.

Security authorities raided the west Beirut home of Ahmed Abu Adas, a Palestinian they said appeared in the video but fled during the day. They confiscated computers, tapes and documents, the Interior Ministry said.

Interior Minister Suleiman Franjeh did not rule out a suicide attack, telling television station Al-Hayat-LBC that it would have been difficult to detonate the explosive by remote control due to the sophisticated jamming system in Hariri's motorcade.

Justice Minister Adnan Addoum cautioned that responsibility claims could be an attempt "to mislead the investigation." But he said the explosion despite the high-tech equipment in the motorcade gave credence to "foreign elements" being behind the assassination. He did not elaborate.

The midday blast tore through Hariri's motorcade a block from the famed Mediterranean-side corniche and was so powerful it left the bulletproof vehicles a burning, smoldering wreck. The explosion gouged a crater in the street 30 feet wide and 9 feet deep and shattered windows and twisted metal window frames at a nearby British-based bank and the landmark Phoenicia Hotel.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER
PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

Meet the deans halfway

Last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, key administrators, including President Brody and Dean Boswell, held open meetings in order to give students the opportunity to express concerns, offer suggestions and discuss whatever issues they might have.

Very few students showed up. The effort may seem like a failure, the result of inadequate planning and a passive student body. In reality, it represents a crucial step in facilitating communication between students and administrators, and part of an encouraging trend that began during Intersession.

We urge the administration not to be discouraged by last week's poor showing, but instead to refine their efforts and create a regular point of contact; the success of their efforts will rely upon consistency and accessibility.

The times at which the meetings were held were less than ideal; Thursday and Friday nights are favorite times for student group meetings and social activities. The deans should consider evenings earlier in the week, or more daytime hours. In addition, upperclassmen rarely visit the freshman quad, and not all students frequent Levering or Gilman.

The best place to hold an open meeting is a public, accessible location — the MSE Library in the evening, or the quad outside Levering during the day are two of the biggest thoroughfares on campus. If meetings took place in these locations, students could have access

to administrators without having to seek them out.

The sessions could also be more directed; many students aren't familiar with administrators and their respective areas of expertise. An e-mail that listed the focus of each meeting, or perhaps divided specific issues between the administrators, would give students more guidance.

Finally, the administration should consider making these meetings recurring events. With a standard and accessible day, time and place on which students can rely, these meetings could become a true crossroads for dialogue between students and administrators.

But no matter how great the effort on the part of the University, communication will fail unless students do their part. We can't underestimate the value of an administrator-student forum; this is a unique opportunity, at a school as large as Hopkins, to speak one-on-one with the campus leaders who call the shots.

Without input from students, the administration will be forced to rely on student leaders and RAs for student opinion. Although these individuals are charged with representing and serving students, they are only a segment of the population and a compromised one at that, hardly qualified to speak for the diverse needs and concerns of the entire student body. If we want to see change, we must meet the administration halfway.

Foreign Affairs rebounds

Many students may not remember the Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS) last year. As speaker after big-name speaker pulled out, the staff was forced to cancel event after event. This is upsetting because last year's lineup was impressive.

Democratic presidential candidate Rep. Dennis Kucinich of Ohio, Emmy Award-winning CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer, and Democratic Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware were all scheduled to appear on campus. Speakers that would have normally packed Shriver on the same level as the Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium (MSE), instead left students wondering what went wrong.

The limited number of events that took place in the Symposium focused on the Middle East, largely ignoring the rest of the world. This year things are changing, thanks to a restructured Symposium format and a wider scope of speakers and topics.

This year's Symposium will cover global issues as opposed to narrowing the focus of the symposium to only one region of the world. The staff of this year's FAS have successfully taken what last year was a symposium on the Middle East and transformed it into a more balanced symposium covering topics ranging

from Cuba to China and almost everywhere in between.

In making the decision to switch from what was once a one-speaker format to what is now a mostly panel format, the FAS staff have successfully decreased the chances of having to cancel events when one speaker pulls out. This changed format will allow for more discussion and provide students with varying views of each topic.

This year's lineup might not feature a presidential candidate, but it does feature a wide range of speakers, all of whom have immense experience in the topics they will address.

Not all of the speakers in the lineup are people easily recognizable by name. Yet the individuals that the staff of this year's FAS have managed to secure to speak are key figures in foreign affairs, and come from a wide range of backgrounds.

The Foreign Affairs Symposium has long been unfairly considered the little brother of the Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium, often having to work in the shadow of the larger fall symposium. With the announcement of this year's speakers, it is clear that this year's FAS staff has taken steps to rightfully distinguish itself from MSE.

From death lane to dead lane

The southbound lane of North Charles Street, known to Hopkins students as the "death lane," was once a trolley car path. Cute as that sounds, the last trolley cars in Baltimore stopped service about 50 years ago, and since then, the death lane has been nothing but trouble for local residents and the Hopkins community.

Sadly, the lane lived up to its name all too often in recent years. During the fall of 1999, for example, a crash killed a local jogger. In almost every year since, pedestrians have suffered non-life threatening injuries.

The treacherous lane led motorists who were unfamiliar with Charles Village traffic patterns onto a dangerous path. Screeching halts were a regular occurrence, as many students and motorists narrowly avoided accidents. Class work is stressful enough; worrying about getting clipped by a Suburban on the way to class was too much.

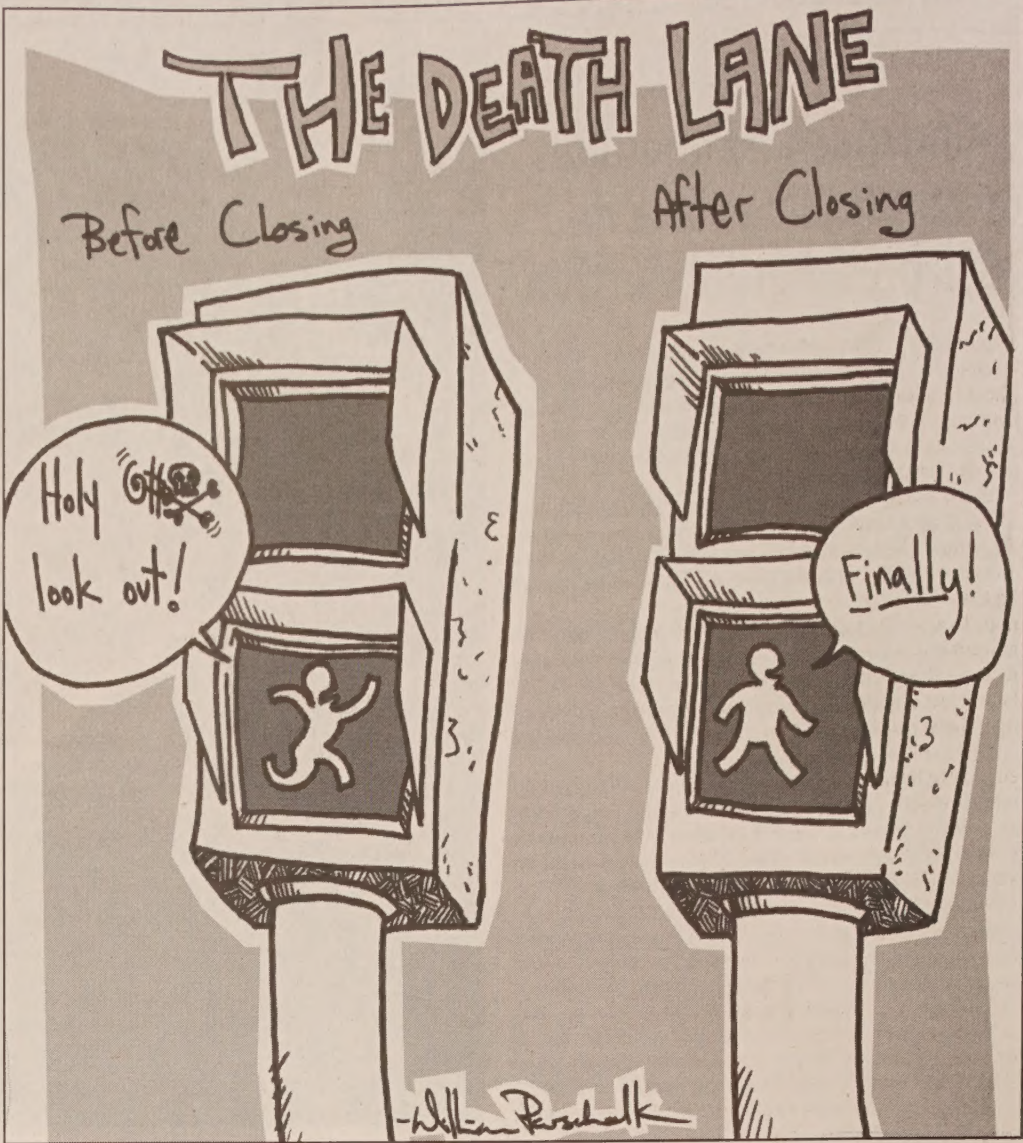
These incidents sparked widespread outrage among students who faulted the adminis-

tration and city leaders for not being receptive to safety concerns. Still, years passed without the promise of any resolution to the ongoing problem. This inaction was discouraging because Hopkins seemed so well-equipped to address the issue. As the largest private employer in the state of Maryland, one would think that President Brody had some sway at the Mayor's office.

As time passed between incidents and other serious issues rose to the forefront of our attention, the death lane seemed to be the last thing that anyone was worried about. But despite our current preoccupation with security, the mayor's recent decision to close the lane should be lauded as a victory for student safety.

Those who orchestrated this long-overdue closure deserve praise because our school has finally responded to this long-standing student concern. We can only hope that it is a harbinger of a stronger relationship between Hopkins and Baltimore City in upcoming years.

WILLIAM PARSCHALK



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hot at Hopkins write up not appreciated

I filled out the questionnaire (for "Hot at Hopkins," February 10, 2005) as a parody, knowing Hot at Hopkins is meant to be funny. In the article, I came off as a flake whose only interest is getting noticed through sex. There was nothing sexual in my responses to the questions, such as "your ideal man" or "your best quality."

My friends who know me immediately recognized it as something in which I had no participation, something that did not make sense. People who don't know me as well approached me, one who said that his first response was "Wait, I thought she was serious and intelligent." He said I came off as a flake who wanted attention.

We cannot let our culture teach us that it is right to deal with strong, intelligent women and men in this

way, by turning them into stupid sex objects, turning them into Hot at Hopkins.

For my part, I've learned a few things. I've learned never to send anything for publication without review; it is difficult to read intention into this kind of thing. I've learned to run a submission by a couple of trusted friends.

Other people should not have to learn this way. I cringe at how vulnerable I feel because of this, and I

hope it doesn't happen like this every week.

I came to college wanting to burn. This isn't what I meant. Our student newspaper has turned our fire for learning and making the world better into something that makes us so vulnerable that we become afraid to use the fire for good.

We can do better. We need all the resources that we have.

— Sarika Talve-Goodman, '07

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Letters credited only to organizations will not be printed. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
[HTTP://WWW.JHUNEWSLetter.COM](http://www.jhunewsletter.com)

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editors-in-Chief	Maany Peyvan, Eric Ridge
Managing Editors	Jeff Katzenstein, Sarah Rivard
Marketing Director	Greg Hein
Business Managers	Catherine Chen, Anna Cho
Photography Editors	Mark Mehlinger, Robin Shaw
Copy Editors	Jed Borod, Julie Finelli
Special Edition/Focus Editors	Melissa Artnak, Gina Callahan
News Editors	Brendan Schreiber, Xiao-Bo Yuan
Opinions Editor	Francesca Hansen
Features Editors	Jason Farber, Jessica Youdin
Sports Editor	Jon Zimmer
Arts Editors	Sammy Rose Saltzman, Robbie Whelan
Science Editor	Emily Nalven
Your News-Letter Editor	Katherine Brewer
Events Editor	John Lichtefeld
Electronic Editions Editor	Zach Scott
Graphics Editor	William Parschalk

STAFF WRITERS

Chrissy Adkison, Mary Banks, Jess Beaton, Jessica Begans, Alex Begley, Charlotte Bernard, Leah Bourne, Harrison Bradlow, David Corrigan, Kevin Clark, Carter Cramer, Bryan Curtin, Lauren Dean, Matt Diamond, Sam Eichner, Salvatore Gentile, Marcus Goncalves, Zach Goodman, Anusha Gopalratnam, Miyako Hayakawa, Evan Hulka, Esther Hwang, Patrice Hutton, Maha Jahiri, Amber Jenkins, Patrick Kennedy, Melissa Kim, Caitlin Kunkel, Claire Koehler, Marissa Lowman, Morgan MacDonald, Mason Marcus, John Monagan, Zachary Moor, Ishai Mooreville, Suzanne Nizza, Courtney Rice, Steve Shukie, Jamie Spangler, Charlie Weaver, Liza Wehrly, Eric Wolkoff, Emily Yoon, Stephanie Yu, Anna Yukhananov

GRAPHICS STAFF

Ann Angiulo

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Allison Berken, Elektra Carras, Kate Fallano, Kevin Fu, Tursina Abdul Rashid, Michael Schump, Denise Terry

ADS MANAGER

Brian Sloane

SUBSCRIPTIONS MANAGER

Sara Ginsberg

BUSINESS STAFF

Temí Adewoyin, Carleigh Connelly, Holly Orr

COPY STAFF

Jessica Begans, Evan Elias, Christopher Sacchetti

The Johns Hopkins
News-Letter

The Gatehouse
(corner of N. Charles St.
and Art Museum Dr.)

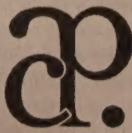
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter is published every Thursday during the academic year by the students of The Johns Hopkins University with the exception of holidays, exam periods, and vacations. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the editorial board. All submissions become property of the News-Letter.

Business hours are Mondays through Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The deadline for advertisements is 5 p.m. on the Tuesday before the Thursday of publication. Subscriptions are available to our readers for \$35 per semester, \$65 for the full academic year. The total circulation to the local campuses of Johns Hopkins (Homewood, Medical School and Hospital, Peabody, Downtown Center), area colleges, and the greater Baltimore region is 6,200.

©2004 The Johns Hopkins News-Letter. No material in this issue may be reproduced without the expressed, written permission of the Editors-in-Chief.

Mailing Address:
Levering Suite 102
The Johns Hopkins University
3400 North Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21218

Main Phone: 410-516-6000
Business Phone: 410-516-4228
Fax Number: 410-516-6565
e-mail: News.Letter@jhu.edu



OPINIONS

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

Don't stifle student life for false sense of security

Despite the fall of old Soviet comrades, it seems that the lessons to be taken of the ills of centralization, bureaucracy, and a general lack of democracy have not been taken as seriously as one would hope after the decades of red scare rhetoric. It is certainly possible that Hopkins would have few people who still endorse central planning in our midst, but is it possible that they are at the top of the chain? Could Brody himself be a communist? It's not very likely.

Brody's crass e-mail with the outline of his 15-point plan is about as inclined to help undergraduates as a resume-building petition and protest without demands. Not to say that it isn't obvious that the University needed to respond quickly, but rather that without significant student input they couldn't even begin to help the students. Student life at JHU is no longer just terrible, it has gotten to be downright dangerous.

One look at the security report files was enough to terrify this New Yorker. In light of recent events, it is obvious that there need to be some serious changes on this campus. However, being obvious to students and being obvious to administrators are unfortunately two different things.

First, student life on this campus is atrocious. A review of any of the other top-tier university Web site will read something like "What is the largest social event on campus? Dining of course!" Further research will show an unparalleled commitment to something so vital to their students' health, strength and daily life.

In stark contrast, JHU has been rated 15th worst food in the nation with a food service provider that has a history of terrible taste, poor worker relations, prisons for profit, food poisoning, and so many health code violations that Terrace had to be closed down in 2000. And all at the affordable rate of about \$8 per meal. Commitment to undergraduates? The secret contract was up for bid in 2005 and renewed after no deliberation or input from the students being affected by the decision.

Second, turning the Homewood campus into a prison will devastate the campus. Many of the items in the Brody plan are designed to give parents a false sense of security while increasingly stifling student life on campus. They will deter future students from choosing Hopkins, irritate current students who are unable to visit

friends without great difficulty, and would have in no way prevented any of the recent deaths or prevented burglaries, robberies, or any number of other issues facing students on and off campus.

Third, forcing students off campus will leave it destitute. Just as closing the beach for parties and revoking E-Level's liquor license and thus driving students into dangerous situations — drunk driving, overcrowded house parties, inner city bars — leaving students without places to congregate on and off campus has given Hopkins bleak prospects.

The library is not a suitable substitute for a student union. The Mattin Center is potentially the most unappealing place in greater Baltimore. The couches in Gilman have lighting that will turn us all into 'that professor' with the mole-man glasses. Spring Fair has been basically removed from campus and films are no longer allowed to be screened in Shriver. Even the Center for Social Concern (CSC) is under fire, despite it being the only place trying to cultivate positive relationships between Hopkins, students, and the Baltimore community.

The serious question remains: what is to

be done? In some cases, simpler can mean better. J-Cards can monitor students better than guards or restricted movement in dorms. A responsive van service that can reach The Charles will reduce off-campus crime, as will serious neighborhood watch programs. Friendlier areas for work and congregating will help the campus's reputation. A different food service provider will reduce the ridiculous lines at Health & Wellness, thus alleviating two problems.

But I cannot speak for all and so I propose that the first major step we as a university need to take to answer this is to create a student union where tangible and positive solutions to real student problems can be addressed. It is through democratic deliberations that JHU will become a place that students are proud to have gone to, rather than simply a means to an end as it now is.

At this time of crisis, we need to pull out of our anomic state of being. Instead of individual undergraduate pre-career research assistants, we need a whole undergraduate student body that will reinforce the social bonds and teach us the life skills that will help us in our lives as much as, if not more than, our careers.

— Mark Belinsky is a junior sociology and film double major.

G.O.P. the new party of reform

It is misleading to call yourself a progressive party when you do nothing but defend the status quo; and it is hard to claim you are the party of change when you oppose any type of reform. However, for much of the past three years, this has been the mantra of the Democratic Party — and it has been a losing one.

Pundits talk about the perceived "values gap" and "security gap" between the parties, but they often neglect a third and equally important difference: the "reform gap." Since the early '70s, Democrats have been passionate and deliberate in keeping the welfare state from changing — and who could blame them? They controlled the Congress and most of the institutions of government left over from the New Deal. Still, this opposition to alteration of the system allowed the Republican Party to cast itself as the party of reform.

With Republicans now in control of the executive branch, and both houses of Congress, the Democrats should be pushing reform on what they see as failed Republican policies. Instead, they have continued to be obstructionists, attempting to halt this President's reform agenda whenever possible.

President Bush has led the Repub-

MARC GOLDWEIN

GUEST COLUMN

lican Party in support of medical malpractice liability reform as well as broader tort reform. Offering no alternative, Democrats have rhetorically supported this reform even though they vote against every bill aimed at fixing the problem. Americans have shown overwhelming support for repairing the system, but Democrats have only shown support for the status quo.

While important, the medical malpractice liability dilemma pales in comparison to the long-run crisis facing Social Security. As people are living longer and baby boomers are retiring, the trust fund will no longer be able to sustain itself.

Once again, on the issue of Social Security, the Republican Party has offered reform. "To keep the promise of Social Security alive for our children and grandchildren, we need to fix the system once and for all," explained President Bush in this week's radio address. He also admitted that "fixing Social Security permanently will require a candid review of the options," which could include limiting benefits for the rich, raising the retirement age, or changing the benefits formula. President Bush will pass Social Security reform, with or without bipartisan support, and the Democrats will once again be seen as obstacles to change.

As the Republican Party implements reform, the Democrats continue to deny reality. In their party platform, they state that they "oppose privatization or raising the retirement age [or] ... reducing benefits [or] ... raising the payroll tax." In other words, the Democrats will defend the current system to the death — and it will die.

If Democrats want to start winning elections, they need to prove that they can advocate an alternative, positive vision for America.

President Clinton understood this when he put his support behind reforming healthcare, expanding trade, reducing government waste, and ending people's unhealthy dependency on government through welfare reform.

Yet, since the first term of the Clinton Administration, the Democratic Party has lacked a reform agenda. They missed the boat on Social Security, but it is not too late for them to support tax reform. President Bush discussed such reform when running for re-election, but has since been silent on the issue. If the Democrats strike first, they will be able to fight the battle over tax reform on their own turf, and show the country that they too can bring about change. But if Democrats fail to offer an alternative agenda, they will continue to grasp in the dark and further their slide toward political irrelevance.

— Marc Goldwein is a sophomore political science major.

Recent Israeli-Palestinian efforts promising

For the first time since I began to follow politics in the Middle East several years ago, I'm optimistic about the short-term prospects for positive change. Since Arafat's recent death, goodwill gestures have abounded from all sides, including the declaration of a ceasefire (albeit a volatile one). There is a feeling in the air that a new chapter in the history of the region has begun.

On the Palestinian side, newly elected Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas has taken tangible steps to curtail, if not end, Palestinian terrorism. Palestinian Authority police are now deployed throughout the Gaza Strip in an effort to prevent the firing of Qassam rockets at Israeli targets inside and nearby Gaza. This deployment not only serves the interest of the Israelis, but it is also a big step towards creating an atmosphere of order and lawfulness in Gaza.

DAVID RODWIN

GUEST COLUMN

The fact that Abbas coordinated the deployment with Israel emphasizes a newly developing sense of trust between the two sides. Coupled with Abbas' recent declaration that civilians may no longer display weapons in public — a move to reign in Hamas and other militant groups — the police deployment demonstrates that Gaza is moving in the right direction.

On the Israeli side, Sharon is committed to the withdrawal of the Israeli presence from Gaza. He has staked his political future and controversial legacy on disengagement. I recently returned from a three-week CHAI (Coalition of Hopkins Activists for Israel) sponsored trip throughout Israel, and in talking to many different Israelis — Arab and Jewish — it became clear to me that opinions on the disengagement vary all over the spectrum.

Many believe that Israel simply has no future in a tiny strip of land so densely populated with Palestinians, and that any withdrawal — with or without an accompanying peace deal — is preferable to the current situation in which Israeli soldiers are dying to protect a few thousand settlers.

Others believe that Israel simply has a moral duty to withdraw. Still others argue that Sharon — considered the ideological father of the Israeli settlements — has traitorously abandoned his cause, and built houses for Jews only to order them to vacate their homes a few years later. A recent rally in Jerusalem attended by roughly 150,000 anti-disengagement protesters demonstrated the strength of this position. The overall consensus in the country, however, is that disengagement is a positive step.

On the Egyptian front, relations between Israel and Egypt have warmed considerably in the past few months. Egypt released Azzam Azzam, an imprisoned Israeli of the Druze sect (a secretive offshoot of Islam that is not considered part of Islam) who had been accused of spying for Israel. In return, Israel has released hundreds of incarcerated Palestinians, and has promised to release more. In addition, the Egyptian intelligence chief, Omar Suleiman, has taken up the role of mediator in the United States' absence.

Suleiman has been actively engaged in attempting to convince the Palestinian militant factions that a ceasefire is in the best interest of the Palestinian population. In addition to working to get the Israelis and Palestinians back to the negotiating table, it was Suleiman who proposed the recent summit

at Sharm el-Sheik. He has also helped the PA organize their police force in preparation for the anticipated Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. And suddenly, after a four-year absence, Egypt has committed to returning an ambassador to Israel within the coming weeks.

All of these positive steps point toward a successful withdrawal from Gaza. As long as Hamas and other militant groups refrain from any major attacks against Israeli targets, and Israel refrains from operations against anyone except "ticking bombs" (e.g., a suicide bomber who is being sent to an Israeli target), the disengagement should be at least a short-term success.

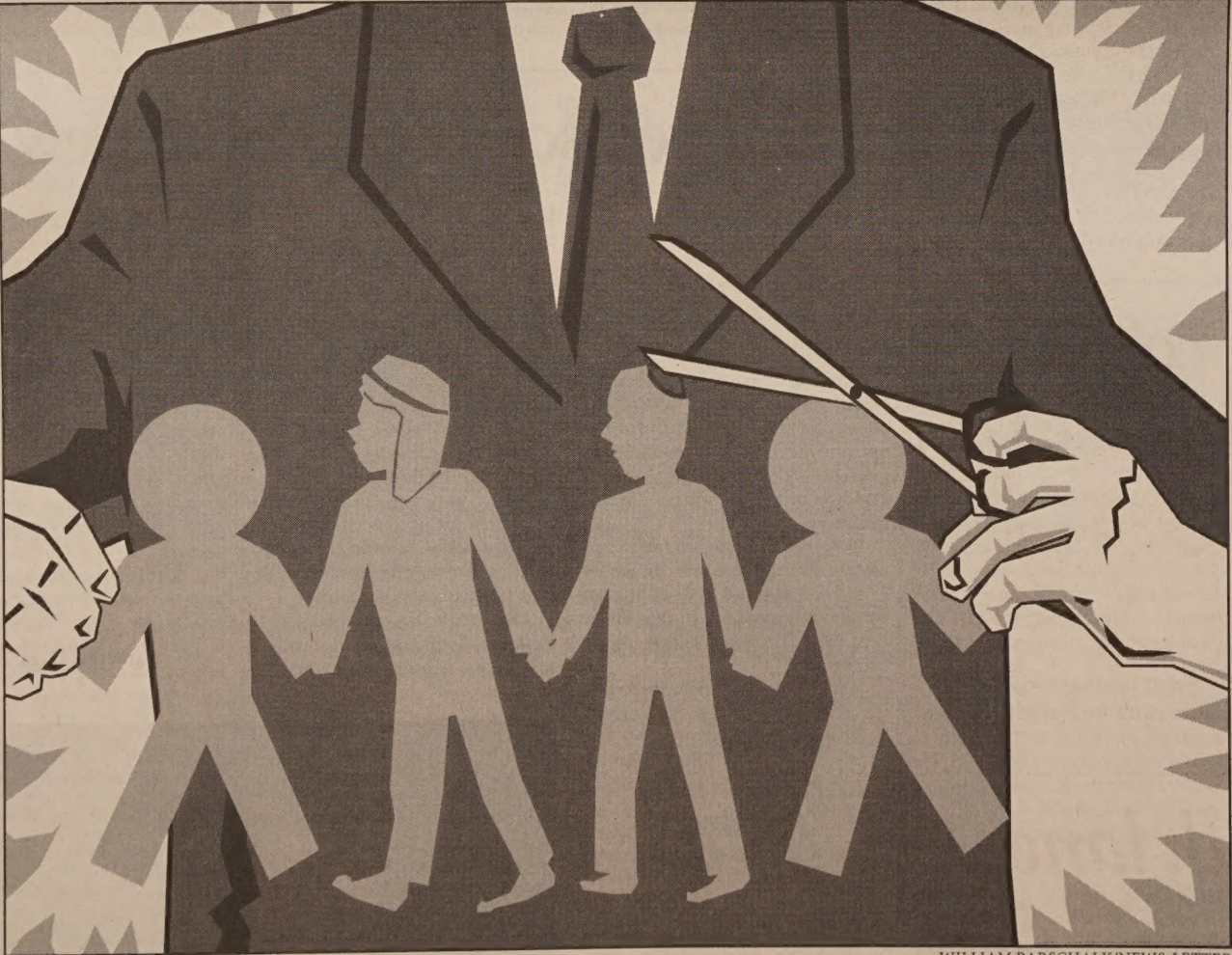
There will, of course, be problems with Israeli settlers, but the Israeli public tends to rally behind the army. Any acts of violence directed against soldiers by the settlers will be met with harsh criticism by the public, and as a result the settler movement will lose credibility.

However, threatening letters received by

leading government officials demonstrate that the threat presented by right-wing Jewish extremists is a serious one. Israeli security services must be careful not to allow Sharon to share the fate of Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin, who was assassinated by a Jewish extremist for making peace overtures to the Palestinians.

Overall, if trends continue on their present course, which seems entirely plausible, Israel will be out of Gaza by this time next year. If the goodwill that is currently being nursed continues to grow, ground — however shaky — will be laid for final status negotiations soon after the pullout. Abbas must hope that he can control the militant segments of Palestinian society, Sharon must hope that he can muster enough governmental support to go through with the disengagement, but, for once, things are looking up.

— David Rodwin is a senior Writing Seminars major.



WILLIAM PARSHALK/NEWS-LETTER

Meet administration halfway for student safety

In the aftermath of Linda Trinh's death, perhaps the most upsetting element of what has become a year-long ordeal has been the apparent refusal of the student body to take personal responsibility for its own safety. Critics of the University have been so unrelenting that they have only stopped just short of implicating members of the administration in the tragic crime itself. Nonetheless, when several deans and even President Brody himself finally heeded the voices of the students and literally came to meet with us in the AMRs, the library, Wolman Station, and other heavily trafficked locations, most of us simply shrugged off the opportunity to voice our concerns.

Last Tuesday Dean Burger sent an e-mail to the entire student body inviting students to discuss whatever troubled them, "whether your concerns are about the sense of loss you feel, issues of security, feelings about our Hopkins community and what we can do to rebound from our wounds, or any other

thoughts that need expression." This, by all accounts, was the perfect and rare opportunity for students to sit down with the people who — for better or for worse — shape much of their daily lives from behind a lowered curtain. On two occasions, once in the AMR I Lounge and once in the lobby of Levering Hall, President Brody made himself available for nearly two hours in the evening.

At the latter of his two meetings, Brody commented last Friday that "this is the most highly attended meeting we've had." There were five students in attendance at the time.

Regardless of the fear or anger any of us may feel, the attacks and criticisms directed at the University are far less than what Hopkins students deserve for wasting several opportunities to truly affect change here.

While there are certainly holes in the

Hopkins security apparatus, the ultimate responsibility for one's safety lies not in a bank account managed by President Brody, but in the hands of each individual here. The fact that students did not attend these meetings demonstrates that the greatest lesson to be learned following Linda Trinh's death has escaped most of us: We must remain vigilant.

At the town hall meeting last month hosted by Dean Burger, Director of Campus Security Ron Mullen, and President Brody, among others, most students rose to chastise the administration as if it had personally played a hand in the crime that took place. Few stood with the officials present and urged their fellow students to take those steps necessary to work toward greater security on an individual basis. This message rang clear though, for no matter how many guards roam the streets or overhead

lights line the sidewalk, crimes will still occur until the end of time. Until we accept the fact that the University simply cannot guarantee 100 percent safety at all times, the dangers we face will multiply indefinitely.

The greatest tragedy we have suffered of late is the loss of three young undergrads within the span of one year. Next in line, however, is the continued failure of Hopkins students to take our collective safety into our own hands. It is time to clamp down on ourselves, if only a bit. It is alright to want to bolt-lock our doors at night; there is no shame in looking over our shoulders once or twice on the way home.

If you see a guard falling asleep while on duty, if you have to wait 30 minutes for a shuttle, or if you notice anything suspicious make it your first priority to notify the security department. Without this vigilance each of us remains at risk of robbery, attack, or worse. Accept your responsibility, embrace it, and keep your eyes open.

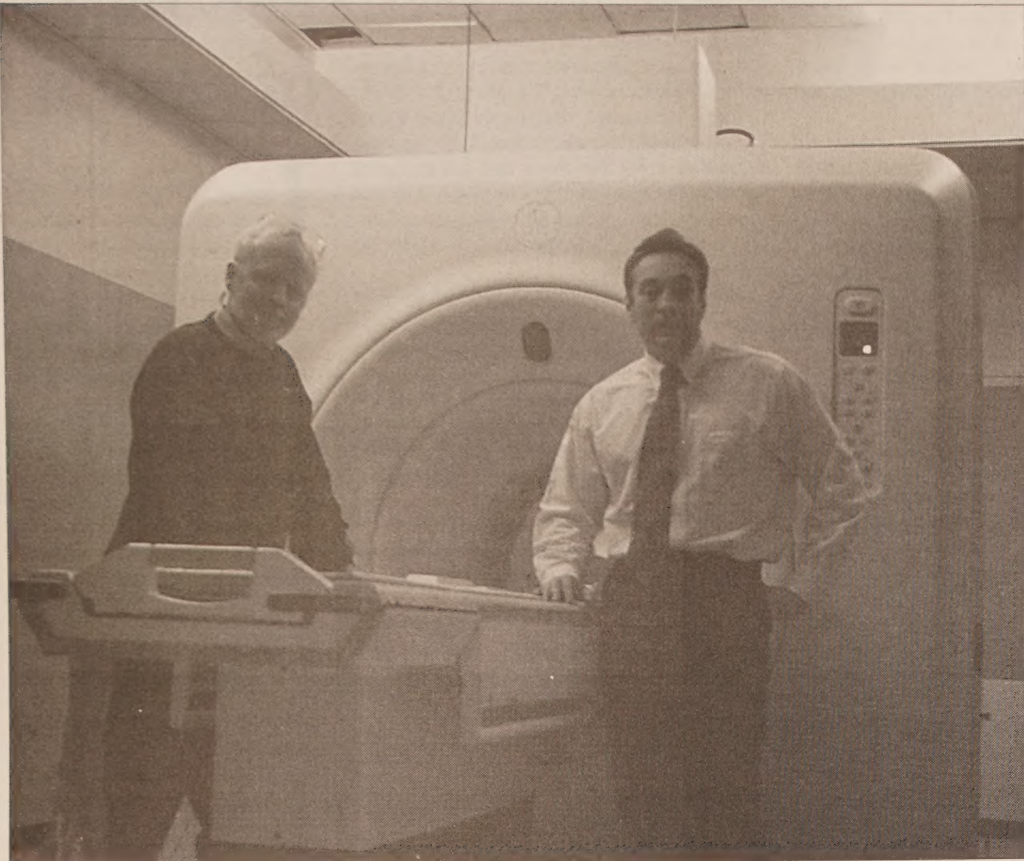
— Brendan Schreiber is a sophomore international studies major.

BRENDAN SCHREIBER

GUEST COLUMN

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Study finds energy and heart failure link



Drs. Paul Bottomley and Robert Weiss stand with an MRI machine that helped them take study measurements.

BY PATRICK KERNS
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

People with failing hearts don't have enough chemical energy to support normal pumping function, according to recently published research by a team of scientists and doctors at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. These findings lend credence to the "energy starvation" hypothesis of heart failure and could lead to new therapies for heart failure patients.

The energy starvation hypothesis states that heart cells beat weakly because they do not have enough energy supply to sustain normal contraction beating.

Heart disease is currently the number one cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

In 2002 approximately 700,000 deaths, or 28.5 percent of all deaths, were caused by heart disease.

The researchers pioneered a new technology to measure the rate at which chemical energy sources were generated in living, beating heart tissue.

Coupling a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine with spec-

troscopic techniques, they were able to measure turnover of the ATP molecule in heart tissue.

ATP, or adenosine triphosphate, is frequently called the "energy currency of the cell" and is used to chemically power myriad cellular functions from muscular contractions to construction of cellular supporting structures.

In heart cells the ATP molecules are produced from several sources, including a reaction involving the enzyme Creatine Kinase (CK). Measuring the ATP production rate of this reaction allowed researchers to compare the energy supply in the normal heart with that of heart failure patients.

They studied 14 healthy volunteers, as well as 17 volunteers with a history of heart failure. The study was published in the January 18, 2005 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* under the title "ATP flux through creatine kinase in the normal, stressed, and failing human heart." The article was authored by Paul A. Bottomley PhD of the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Research Division, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine as well as by Robert G. Weiss, M.D. and Gary Gerstenblith, M.D. of the Johns

Hopkins Department of Medicine, Cardiology Division.

The team's findings indicate that healthy patients were able to produce ATP from CK at a sufficient rate for a range of different work levels, while for patients with mild to moderate heart failure energy supply was approximately halved.

According to Weiss, there were several previous conceptions how heart failure developed and progressed. "The older 'hemodynamic hypothesis' of heart failure proposed that making the heart beat stronger would treat heart failure. In the short term such approaches may improve symptoms and cardiac output but ultimately they do not reduce long-term mortality and in fact sometimes increase mortality. This may be because, in part," they increase energy demand in an energy deficient envi-

ronment." If the heart is an "old tired horse pulling a cart up a hill," as Weiss explains, these treatments were akin to "whipping the tired horse."

More recently the "neurohormonal hypothesis," which current heart failure therapies are based on, holds that our bodies' natural response to heart failure, namely releasing chemicals like adrenaline into the blood helps in the short term but hurts more in the long term. Consequently drugs such as ACE-inhibitors and beta-blockers that are used to treat heart failure are designed to stop this ultimately damaging response.

These treatments, unlike those based on the earlier hemodynamic

If the heart is an old tired horse pulling a cart up a hill, these treatments were akin to whipping the tired horse.

— DR. ROBERT WEISS, JHU CARDIOLOGY DIVISION

hypothesis, have resulted in greater survival rates for heart failure patients. In the horse cart analogy these treatments "slow down the horse [and] unload the wagon."

These treatments also lower the amount of energy required by the heart and may be working, in part, through the energy starvation hypothesis.

This recent study showing a problem in energy transfer in the failing heart may lead to new metabolic treatments for heart failure. These would be akin to "feeding" the tired horse pulling the cart and could complement current treatments.

This new MRI technique offers a new and potentially important way to study the energetic status of the normal and failing human heart.

Libido drug research for females suggested

BY ESTHER HWANG
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Viagra and similar prescription drugs have taken the world by storm in recent years. Men both young and old have scrambled to get their hands on these libido enhancement drugs.

In the past few years since these drugs have appeared, the focus on women and their needs has disappeared. Women have been inquiring if there is a miracle drug out there for them, too.

There is certainly market potential for female libido enhancement drugs. According to Dr. Edward Laumann of the University of Chicago, 43 percent of all women suffer from sexual dysfunction, compared to a lesser 31 percent of all men.

Female sexual dysfunction, or hypoactive sexual drive — as classified in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders — shows both physical and psychological symptoms.

A woman will have a period where she displays lack of desire, no sex drive and inability to orgasm.

In more serious cases, normal female arousal can be stalled, as well as marked pain in the genital area before and after sex.

Causes of these can be psychological factors, such as stress or relationship problems, and medical problems can indicate nerve damage in the genital area, decreased blood flow or endocrine disorders if there is a drop in hormone levels.

In more serious cases, such medical problems can indicate other illnesses triggering sexual dysfunction, such as neurological disorders or an endocrine disease such as diabetes.

Such cases should be checked out by a doctor immediately before continuing on with any sort of supplement or medication.

Other factors can also involve a woman's reproductive history.

For women who have just re-

cently given birth, their bodies will have experienced a hormonal roller coaster, which can significantly decrease sex drive.

Furthermore, women on hormonal contraception will also report decreased libidos because the dosages could possibly interfere with the body's progesterone levels, the hormone mainly responsible for ovulation and the increased sex drive that women feel during ovulation.

For women suffering from a decreased libido, not many options currently exist.

A woman's libido drug should increase blood flow to her genital region, thus stimulating lubrication and relaxing of the vagina in anticipation of sex.

Currently, there are a few options, though not proven by research to be completely effective, that seem to help, these include testosterone therapy, L-arginine cream, and DHEA supplements.

L-arginine was developed by athletes to help stimulate blood flow in their bodies, and it is suggested that it can also help clitoral blood flow as well.

DHEA is a hormone that is converted to testosterone and estrogen, the hormones that drive human sex drives.

However, its side effect possibilities are risky and make it not quite so popular yet.

Neither do aphrodisiacs hold scientific proof to their effectiveness.

Aside from substances and chemicals, sex toys and other methods seem to give women a wide option of choices to increase sexual arousal.

There is extensive counseling, support as well as networking to help women who are coping with this problem.

Funding has already been granted in hopes of finding a treatment for female sexual dysfunction in the next few years.

Someday, women may have the option of being able to pop a pill for sexual dysfunction, just like men.

Kyoto Protocol goes into effect outside U.S.

The Kyoto Protocol is in the news again, at least in Baltimore, a city whose summer air is among the most polluted in the nation. Politicians, business and religious leaders, and concerned citizens rallied Wed., Feb. 16 at Federal Hill Park, accompanied by a 30-foot tall inflatable wind turbine, to protest the United States' decision not to sign the Protocol.

The Kyoto agreement, which finally went into effect on Feb. 16, seven years after its original inception, is the world's first international treaty on global warming.

While there are many less than ideal aspects of it, the Protocol represented a unique opportunity for global cooperation on an increasingly important issue and still stands as proof of the dedication of the 136 nations, including Japan and every European country, who signed it.

The Protocol was the first (and so far, only) opportunity for governments across the planet to agree that global warming is actually a global problem, and one that necessitates a global solution.

The Bush administration's decision to withdraw from the Kyoto agreement in 2001 dealt a significant blow to the treaty's efficacy.

It also confirmed for many the United States' reluctance to atone for the fact that our country produces nearly twice as many greenhouse emissions per capita as the other two largest industrialized polluters, Germany and Japan.

The rally will also encourage the passage of two pieces of Maryland legislation, which, while certainly not approaching the global significance of the Protocol, have the potential to substantially increase environmental protection on a more local level.

The Clean Cars Bill would introduce stricter vehicle emissions standards for Maryland that are similar to successful policies already implemented in eight other states, including New York and New Jersey.

ALEXANDRA SKINNER ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA

Automobiles are the leading cause of smog in Maryland as well as tremendous emitters of carbon dioxide. Should this bill pass, it has the potential to significantly affect our health in a positive manner.

The second piece of legislation, the Power Plant Four Pollutant Bill, would lower emissions of sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide, mercury, and nitrogen oxide from coal-fired power plants.

Even if you missed the rally, you can take still take action. Hopkins Students for Environmental Action plans to hold a postcard campaign encouraging our district representative to help pass the two bills.

Other information is available at <http://www.chesapeakeclimate.org>.

While we may have not achieved everything on our environmental wishlist, including the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, there's still great potential for pollution reduction in and around Baltimore.

Aging telescope prompts new JHU proposal

BY SARAH WILLIAMS
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The aging Hubble Space Telescope faces an uncertain future and scientists and politicians are now grappling with what to do about it.

Circling 375 miles above the earth's surface, Hubble travels around the planet every 95 minutes and provides astronomers with extraordinary amounts of data that allow an understanding of the universe at a whole new level.

However, to keep the Hubble operating with the newest technologies would cost as much as \$2 billion, an amount that does not fit into President Bush's proposed budget for the coming year.

While some scientists are focusing on ways to keep the current Hubble operating at a lower cost, scientists here at The Johns Hopkins University propose launching an entirely new telescope.

They have dubbed their proposed telescope the Hubble Origins Probe and say that it will be able to carry out the same tasks as the current Hubble Space Telescope at a much lower cost.

The plans for the Hubble Space Telescope were originally set in place in the 1970s, after two decades of leaps and bounds in space technology, including landing on the moon and the Soviet launching of Sputnik. However, multiple setbacks delayed the development and then launching of Hubble until April 1990.

Hubble was designed to last until the end of this decade, with five planned servicing missions to keep its technology up to date and its equipment functioning.

The first four of these manned trips have already happened. The last, however, was cancelled after seven astronauts died on the Columbia Shuttle in 2003.

NASA administrators ruled that after the Columbia tragedy, it would be putting astronaut's lives at risk to send a manned mission to Hubble.

They proposed the alternative idea, however, of an entirely robotic mission to install new equipment on the Hubble.

Since then, a group of scientists at the National Academy of Sciences

have dubbed the idea of a robotic mission unlikely. Furthermore, President Bush's budget for the coming year makes it imperative to find a cheaper option.

On Feb. 2, Dr. Colin Norman, a member of the Hopkins physics department and the of the Space Telescope Science Institute, spoke in front of the House of Representatives Committee on Science in favor of funding the Hubble Origins Probe.

"There have been many striking moments during the Hubble mission," he testified. "Indeed, Hubble discoveries have rewritten the text books from which our children learn."

The Hubble Origins Probe is a 2.4-meter free flying telescope, making it smaller and lighter than the Hubble

Space Telescope, and therefore making the launch cheaper and easier. It could be launched in 2010 and the entire cost, including the launch, would top out at \$1 billion.

Although this cost seems hefty, Norman explained that in the end, it is worth it.

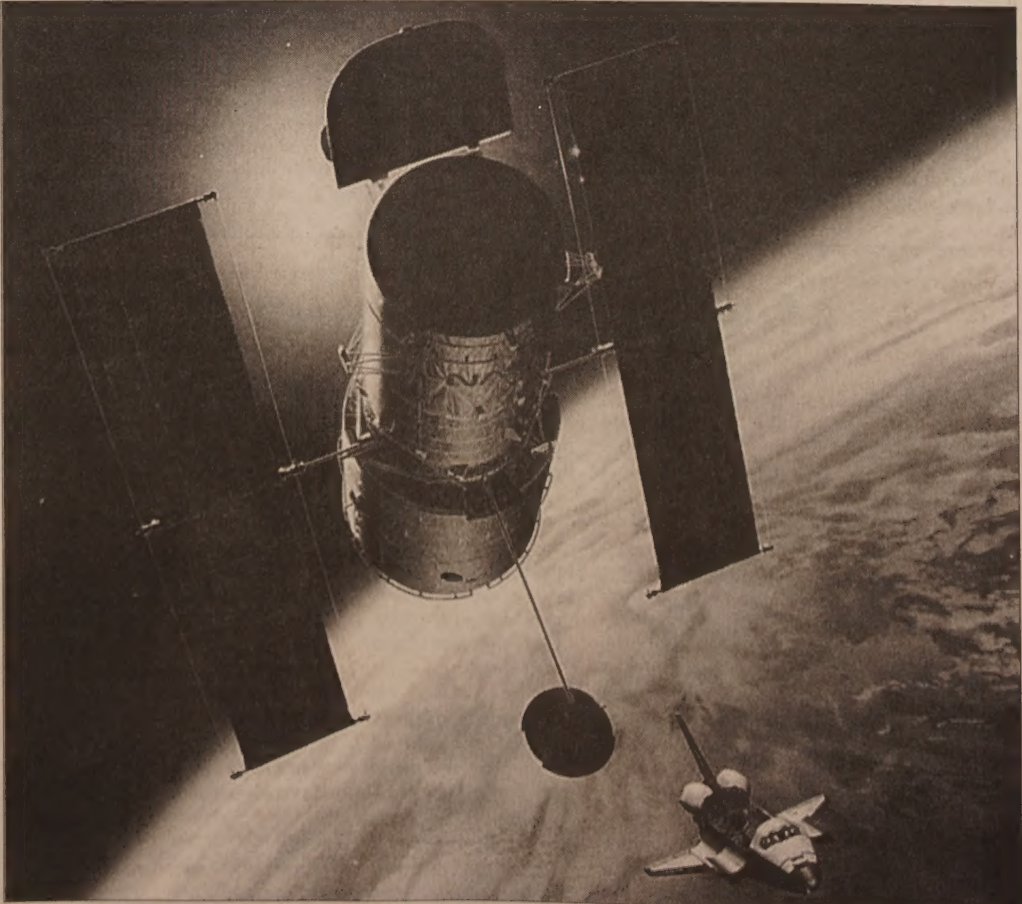
"The groundbreaking science, the cutting-edge technology generated in the development of new instrumentation, the ability of Hubble science to engage the interest of the public, and its impact on the imagination of students, make it worthwhile to invest this sum of public funds to complete the last chapter of the Hubble's remarkable legacy," Norman said.

Indeed, without the Hubble, much forward looking physics and as-

tronomy research would perhaps come to a stand-still. However, it is precisely because of this, that scientists are taking action to make sure something is done.

Introducing the Hubble debate to the Science Committee, Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee Chairman Ken Calvert spoke poignant words about the future of the Hubble, no matter what happens to it.

"While the Hubble's amazing journey will some day eventually come to an end, it will not be the end of the story, just as Galileo's looking glass wasn't the last telescope. The next chapter will feature bigger, better, and more capable observatories which will provide even more amazing discoveries," Calvert said.



The Hubble Telescope allows scientists to look seven times further into space than existing space telescopes.

YOUR NEWS-LETTER

Food for thought: Sodexho economics

Your Money

As I walked through the crowded Levering basement for a midday snack, I was astounded by the jovial atmosphere of youthful exuberance and the feel of spilled salsa under my new Timberland boots.

Back in high school, I yearned for the day when I could waltz through the halls of my undergraduate institution, grabbing some sort of pretentious food, to sit under some pretentious tree, and read some pretentious book, assigned to me by a professor in the pretentious department.

But as I looked around Levering hall, the purported ivory tower of the imperialist Sodexho Empire, I was taken aback by the options presented to me. It was as if I were walking through the desert, hallucinating and blindly ambling towards surreal images from a hydrated yesteryear.

I look towards a giant pizza logo. "Ah yes, a Pizza Hut!" Quickly, I run towards the friendly, native Italian workers and ask for a personal pan pizza. But then it hits me. This was not Pizza Hut at all. It was Pete's Arena (which, as a pun, is an affront to every reasonable restaurant name to date).

Am I in Soviet Russia? Does the State own everything? Suddenly, I think I'm onto something. Longlines, unsatisfied customers, food shortages, and a Bolshevik laughing all the way to the bank to boot. I'm in Moscow, circa 1979. Somebody hands me a bottle of water, and I regain consciousness, thankful for my health and dignity.

As Sodexho arduously tries to convince the administration to extend their contract that has, in years past, earned us the highly-coveted distinction of being named one of the worst schools for food quality by the Princeton Review, we must consider this, just as I consider everything in life, in the terms of a language that should be universal to all of mankind: economics.

The purpose of this article, then, is to show how Sodexho, one of the most profitable organizations on campus, works at the expense of every student on campus. And fur-



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Students who eat at a Sodexho dining facility such as Wolman often complain about poor food quality.

ther more, what can be done to appropiate the most just solution to the Sodexho problem, and how students can help, even if its just to complain to the right source.

I am sure that the average reader has played the benign game, Monopoly, at least once in your life. And from when you played, do you remember why you could build houses and hotels on your properties? No, it was not about how much money you had, but whether or not you controlled the land capital of a certain region.

It was only then when could you start extorting your visitors and eventually win the game. But even more broadly, recent news has showed us that governments are increasingly aware of monopolies, since they breed inefficiency and are a drain on the welfare of society.

So, what are the signs of a monopoly? First and foremost, they control the means of production for an industry. That's right, the only way to produce on their turf is to be a part of their own machine. This

entails extensive barriers to entry.

With a lack of competition, the said monopoly can limit supply, and drive up the price of their final product, whatever that might be. Okay, that's all good and fine in textbook terms, but what does this mean for Sodexho?

Simply put, they are in a highly lucrative position, because the Johns Hopkins administration has granted them a virtual monopoly on the on-campus dining options. Think about it, there is a reason why you have to walk ten minutes out of your way to go to Subway for lunch.

Sodexho wants you to settle for Sub Connection. Not only that, Hopkins compounds the problem when they mandate that their students purchase meal plans for their first two years of undergraduate study.

The tendency of monopolies is to gravitate towards complacency. And who can blame them? There's a reason why lunch waits can take up to forty-five minutes, salsa trays are never filled, tables are never cleaned, napkin holders are never restocked, and the workers act like they hate you. Sodexho has absolutely no incentive to adopt a spirit of helpful customer service.

So what are the solutions? The time

for action is now. First of all, call members of the administration and demand competition in dining services. Industries rich in competition deliver the best product for the cheapest price for a reason.

Competition is what drives everything at Hopkins. While I am reluctant to make a normative claim on the value of throating classmates, this is a time when hyper-competition should be fostered in a way that can actually benefit the Hopkins community.

Furthermore, demand flexibility from your meal plans. Did you know that you can purchase a block with points, but you cannot purchase something that costs points in blocks? There is absolutely no compelling reason for this, aside from "constant pass" holders who could theoretically convert their blocks indefinitely. So caveat them out of the conversion process.

What's the compelling reason against this? Is it because Sodexho knows that students will avoid the dining halls like the plague, running to convert their rubles into sterling?

I'm not one for rife, rhetoric-filled indignation, but sometimes, loud voices can make a difference. Write to Dean Boswell and tell her what you think. Though this is no guarantee for your actual enjoyment of Hopkins, these changes sure as hell won't make you sad.

Finding your way at the Career Center

Your Jobs

BY JESSICA REBARBER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In the highly competitive atmosphere that is Johns Hopkins University, doing well in courses and participating in numerous organizations is often not enough for students to add to their resumes. In fact, finding a summer job or internship is usually a key component of many a student's CV.

Although internships can be difficult to find, and often do not compensate participants for their labor, the JHU Career Center provides invaluable resources to facilitate the internship search process.

Making an appointment at the Career Center can be a difficult endeavor, as it can take as many as three weeks before there is an opening with one of the counselors. However, the information and tips received by actually making a formal appointment are priceless.

Go prepared with a sample resume and an idea of what type of internship you are looking for. Once this is accomplished, the counselor will demonstrate their fantastic Web site, which includes several methods of searching for the perfect internship. Additionally, by making the acquaintance of a career counselor, your name may come up in a conversation with an employer, providing those crucial networking skills.

If you are unable to find time for an official appointment, the Career Center holds drop-in hours each weekday for a quick fifteen-minute appointment with a counselor. This is a great time to get a resume checked out, or discuss the contents of a general cover letter.

Freshman Laura Peralta remarked that "the Career Center's suggestions for sprucing up my resume really made sense, and I now feel confident that I will have an internship this summer."

Before your first appointment, you are required to set up an account with the Career Center, via *Monstertrak.com*. *Monstertrak*, a spin-off of the job database *Monster.com*, is one of the most useful internship searching tools. It provides a forum for employers to search for prospective employees and vice-versa. Clicking on the "Job and Internship Database" will allow you to input where you'd like to work and the type of job you'll need.

It then shows the results, providing contact information and a way to apply online. The Website allows you to house up to ten resumes and one cover letter, which can be used in any combination when applying for certain positions.

The Web site also contains a section unique to Hopkins, crafted by the Career Center. The Hopkinsnet allows students to search for alumni in their fields of interest. Another exercise in tweaking networking skills, dropping a line to alum could yield a great internship. The "Internships USA" link will take you to an online database with hundreds of internships grouped by categories. Since this is through *Monstertrak*, it is possible to apply online when possible.

The Career Center also provides paper materials found in the Center itself for internship opportunities. They include massive binders, again grouped by category, which contain contact information and blurbs about each prospective job. However, some of these can be outdated, so be prudent when looking through them.

If you are unsure if you are on the right track when crafting a resume, or if you have no clue what is meant by a cover letter, fear not — the Career Center has created handouts on how to write a proper CV and/or cover letter, which can be found both in the Center and online.

These dittos provide a framework for resumes and a formula for cover letters. By following these guidelines and then reinforcing them with a glance-over from a counselor, you are well on your way to getting that elusive internship.

One of the most important things to keep in mind when applying for a summer internship is that it is necessary to apply to several of them.

Since most college students will want a head start in the business world, whether it be for the experience or for the graduate school resume, finding an internship becomes competitive. By applying to many prospects, you increase your chances of getting a great one that fits in with what you are interested in doing. Be sure to look for the compensation offered, if any, and the travel stipend if you will be using mass transit to arrive at work.

Career Center Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., open until 7 p.m. on Wednesdays

Drop-in Hours: Monday 1-3 p.m., Tuesday 10-11 a.m., Wednesday 1-4 p.m., Thursday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Hopkins GOP keeps party grand

Your Clubs

BY KATHERINE BREWER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Although it's never easy to be a republican on a east coast private college campus, the Hopkins College Republicans seem to be handling it well.

The College Republicans, who worked hard in the fall on various campaigns, are spending spring semester focusing on community outreach and education.

This weekend the College Republicans are going to the Conservative Political Action Conference, or CPAC, a huge convention held in the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington D.C. for various members of the conservative movement. The three day event hosts speakers, including Vice President Dick Cheney, political advisor Karl Rove, and best selling conservative author, Ann Coulter.

"[CPAC] is great because it exposes members of our group to different veins of the conservative movement," said Justin Klatsky, the president of the College Republicans and a senior political science major. "It's also fun and educational at the same time."

"Its not just republicans, its every vein of the conservative movement, from the very conservative Constitutional party to [the] Libertarian party, which disagrees with the Republican party on a number of issues" continued Klatsky.

"You interact with pro-life groups as well as groups like the Log Cabin Republicans, who are the gay republican group. And there is a great focus on grassroots campaigns."

"The spring is a great time to see different aspects of the Republican party," said Klatsky. "It's not just about campaigning."

"It's important for us to continue doing community service," said Vice President Michael Seibert, a junior.

"The spring will be more relaxed semester, without the stress of a campaign."

Different events the group has planned include a trip to the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank in Washington, D.C., and a trip to observe the Maryland state legislature in Annapolis. The group is also hosting a social bowling event for the first time this year. At the end of the year they will also hold their annual spring gala to say goodbye to the graduating seniors of the club.

"We'd like to get a guest speaker

The spring is a great time to see different aspects of the Republican party.

-JUSTIN KLATSKY,
PRESIDENT OF THE
COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

for our gala this year. But usually we just go out to dinner and honor the work of the seniors," said Seibert.

"I think that community service will define the spring semester," said Klatsky, who plans to get the group to work with a Salvation Army tutorial project, a raffle for the Red Cross, raising money for military families, and work with the nearby Waverly neighborhood community.

"Taking care of injured military is important to us," said Seibert. "Some times they aren't treated very well, so it's important to raise money for them. We'd also like to raise money for the family of dead soldiers"

The spring semester notes a shift from the fall semester where the College Republicans were focused solely on the election of Republicans. The group is proud of the work

it put into the Nov. 2 election.

"We worked really hard in the fall," said Klatsky. "It was good to feel like we had a role in the reelection of Bush."

This fall the College Republicans sent volunteers to Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia for the Bush campaign and worked for several US congress campaigns in Maryland and the Arlen Specter campaign for senator in Pennsylvania.

College Republicans, unlike the College Democrats, have also not seen a drop off in numbers since Nov. 2.

"Our numbers really haven't dropped off. We've been a pretty steady group for about four years now," said Seibert. "I think College Democrats were riding a wave of anti-Bushism and that's why, after election day, they saw a drop off in their membership."

The group holds weekly meetings and the elections are towards the end of March.

Klatsky urges people to attend the meetings, but also the events. "The meetings are really just used to plan our bigger events. The events are where people can meet and socialize, talk politics and get to know each other."

"Our goal has always been to provide a place for students who are conservative or republican to come and feel comfortable voicing their opinion," said Seibert.

"That's not to say that we don't have a variety of opinions. We've had several members with differing opinions. Recently we've had members who are opposed to the Iraq war, among other things."

"A lot of people say that Hopkins is a pretty conservative campus compared to the Ivies or Duke," said Seibert. "But I'm from South Carolina, and to me, its still pretty liberal. We want students to feel comfortable."

"We always want new members," said Klatsky. "And the spring is a great time to get involved."

5 BEST MIDNIGHT SNACKS

Your Cuisine

Paper Moon Diner

With freaky décor and okay sandwiches, Paper Moon offers better atmosphere than food. The diner's interior is littered from floor to ceiling with mannequins and dolls like a madman's playhouse. At a certain point in a long night though, it can seem like a really fun place.

The dubiously-priced food is typical diner fare with a bit of flare — sprouts instead of lettuce for garnish, for instance, and some truly mighty omelets. Paper Moon is located down 29th Street, west of campus, and accessible by JHU shuttle.

University Mini-Mart

This is the only real Hopkins-area convenience store left standing after RoFo got knocked down last year. The food is consistently decent — the falafel is classic, and the subs always taste fresh (the made-in-house iced tea, however, has been known to be sketchy).

The service is also refreshingly friendly; the workers banter with students, and some even know them by name. However, University's greatest asset has to be its accessibility. If ever you find yourself hungry or short of soda in the middle of the night, it's a hop and a skip away on 33rd and St. Paul.

Super Fresh

This supermarket chain is open all the time and on the shuttle route — in other words, perfect for last-minute snack runs and other inevitabilities of the hard-studying Hopkins life. Out of Ramen or



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Diners enjoy the food at Paper Moon Cafe at all hours of the night.

greasy snack food? Super Fresh is your best bet.

Although it's nowhere near Trader Joe's in terms of freshness and variety, Super Fresh is a great place to stock up on essentials on a late night. Plus, it has a handy-dandy machine to exchange all your loose change for bills.

Subway

Despite the annoying commercials with what's-his-name, Subway will always be beloved for its ubiquitous sandwiches and convenient location. In its super-close spot on St. Paul across from the Bradford, Subway is open until 2 a.m. on the weekends, so you can get subs even when all the other order-in spots are closed.

Sip & Bite

Although it's a ways from campus on 2200 Boston St. in Canton, the 24-hour Sip & Bite has a classic diner feel. It opened in the late 1940s and still retains the style of booths and stools from that period, as well as simple, affordable diner food like burgers and crab cakes.

The delightfully inexpensive entrees are straight-up comfort food — baked ham and chicken parmigiana both cost less than \$6. Early morning, post-party visits there have become a staple of Baltimore life, and the prices and quality eating will more than make up for cab fare.

— compiled by Xiao-bo Yuan

SPORTS



Senior forward Ashanna Randall is tied for second on the team for points per game, 10.4. The Jays are 18-4 overall and 13-2 in the Centennial Conference. This week they stand in the third spot in the Centennial poll.

ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

W. Basketball stands 14-2

Hopkins in third position in weekly Centennial Conference polls

Continued from Page A12
ranks her fourth on the Hopkins career list.

The game was, in many ways, a mirror image of the Blue Jays' previous 88-49 defeat of the Fords back in January. Hopkins got on the board quickly with a 13-0 run to start the game. The Fords stormed back early with a 16-9 run of their own to come within six points at the midway mark of the first half, but that was the closest they would come all night. Hopkins proved to be the better team in every facet of the game, dominating the rest of the contest and coming away with a 38-point victory.

"The win against McDaniel [last week] has really given us a spark," said Burkholder, who finished with eight points and three assists. "We are just taking the rest of the season one game at a time."

The win improved the Blue Jays' record to 18-4 overall and 13-2 in the Centennial Conference, while Haverford dropped to 4-17 and 1-14, respectively. For the Gettysburg game, the Blue Jays welcomed back junior forward Katie Kimball, who had missed the previous three games with an injury. "She's 90 percent ready to go, and we are happy to have her back," said coach Funk. "The only real concern I have is her fatigue, but

that shouldn't be a problem since we have Haley to spot for her." Kimball leads the Jays with 10.5 points per game, with Randall and sophomore Julie Miller tying for second with 10.4

We now control our own destiny in the conference. If we win out the rest of the season, we should be in good shape for the postseason.

— NANCY FUNK, HEAD COACH

points per game. Randall and Miller lead the Jays in rebounds with 8.4 and 7.3 per game respectively.

The Blue Jays' game against Gettysburg was the final home game of the regular season, but the team realizes that if they play well through the final two games of the season,

then they will host at least part of the Centennial Conference playoffs, which begin Feb. 22.

"We now control our own destiny in the conference," said Coach Funk. "If we win out the rest of the season, we should be in good shape for the postseason." The Blue Jays had a 'senior day' this past weekend, where seniors Randall, Felix, and Burkholder were honored for their long years of service. "We've had our senior day, with both the players and parents, so all our emotions about that are behind us," remarked Funk. "I think we are starting to play very well, and hopefully we can continue to improve and peak at the end of the season."

Felix has a team-best 3.6 steals and 3.2 assists, which is good for first and fourth in the Centennial Conference, respectively. Hopkins is first in the conference in steals, rebounding offense, rebounding margin and offensive rebounds; second in scoring defense, scoring margin, field goal percentage defense, three-point percentage defense, blocks and turnover margin; and third in scoring offense.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Lifeguard
(Part-time)

The Kennedy Krieger Schools' LEAP Program is looking for a part-time lifeguard. Approximately 8 hrs/week; early day work; friendly work environment; pays \$10/hr. Contact Elise Mignon, Aquatics Coordinator at 443-386-0523 or mignon@kennedykrieger.org for an interview

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Perfect for students! Market Research Company in Randallstown needs telephone interviews. NO Sales, will train. Day and evening shifts available. Bay Area Research, 9936 Liberty Road, Randallstown. (410) 922-6600

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Spring Break 2005. Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator. Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, Florida. Hiring Campus reps. Call for discounts: 800-648-4849 or www.STSTravels.com

Men's Basketball falters in disappointing loss at home

Continued from Page A12

to get a win especially against an opponent like Haverford," said Nawrocki. "We worked hard in practice all week and really came together like a team on Saturday and put them away."

Nawrocki scored with a layup 10 minutes into the game with the score tied at 16 apiece. Thereafter, Hopkins went on a 20-3 run to comfortably pull away with this one, as Nawrocki scored 10 of those points and grabbing nine rebounds.

Sophomore center Matt Griffin followed closely behind Nawrocki with 17 points and four rebounds, and senior forward and co-captain Eric Toback picked up 14 points and seven rebounds.

"Matt Griffin has really been stepping up big for us and has provided a huge advantage against teams down low," said Nawrocki.

After the 20-3 run, Haverford trailed by at least 24 points for the rest of the contest, while the Jays were able to bulwark the lead to as big as 28 points during as the game progressed.

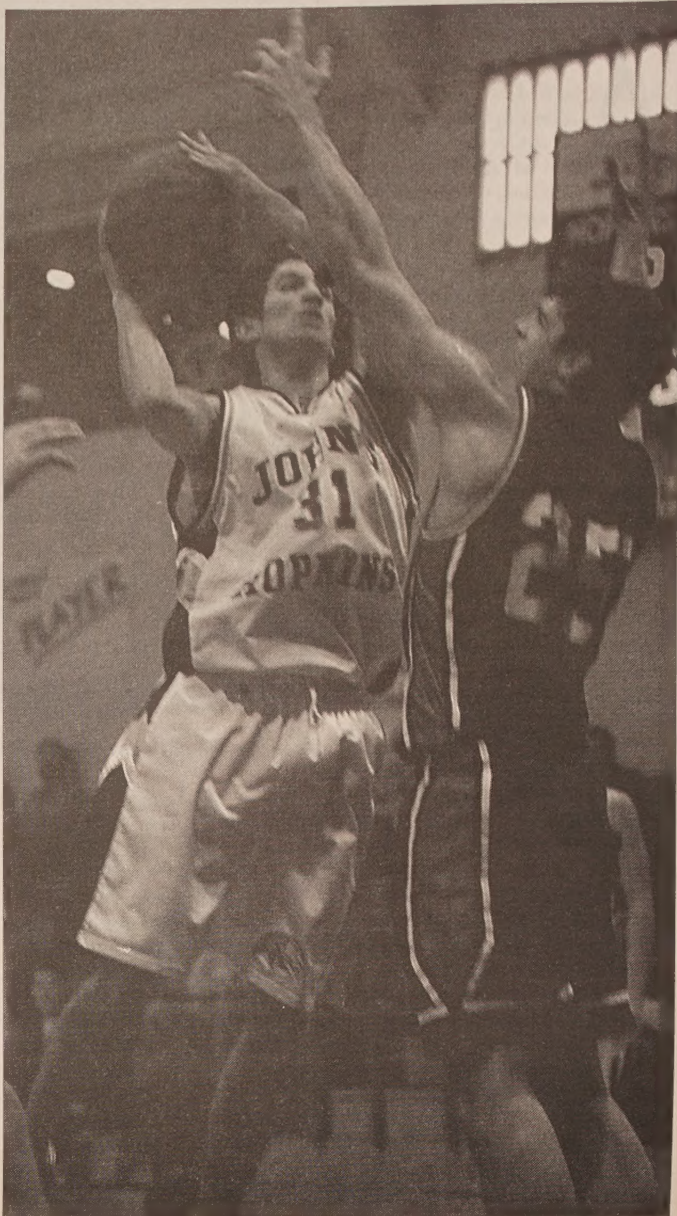
Toback was named this week's Centennial Conference Player of the Week. He picked up a game high 23 points and eight rebounds in last week's game against McDaniel, where he also went five for eight in three pointers.

"Eric is finishing off his impressive year by putting up some big numbers which is key for us while heading into the playoffs," said Nawrocki.

Sophomore guard TJ Valerio and junior guard Bobby Sharafeddin have also excelled as of late, particularly in shooting from outside the arc. Their consistent performance from three-point range has forced opposing defenses to spend less time worrying about the Jays' inside scorers, who have taken advantage.

Junior guard and co-captain Jeff Thompson's leadership and passing skills stood out particularly in Saturday night's contest, which allowed other players to take easy shots from underneath the basket.

The Jays' regular season will conclude with two road conference games, including a rematch with F &



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Junior guard Bobby Sharafeddin and the Blue Jays look to defeat F&M.

M that will likely determine the No. 1 seed for the Centennial Conference playoff tournament. Hopkins will travel to Pennsylvania to play Ursinus College and the conference's sixth ranked scorer Mike McGarvey. Tip-off is scheduled for 1 p.m. The Jays

beat Ursinus 70-69 when they last met in mid-January in Goldfarb Gymnasium. Ursinus is currently tied for third place in the conference with an overall record of 13-9 and a conference record of 10-5.

The Jays will head up to Pennsylvania for the regular season finale on Tuesday to avenge an early-season loss to the Diplomats. The two teams last met at the end of January, where F & M defeated Hopkins, 64-59 on the Jays' home court. The Diplomats are currently 16-6 overall and 11-4 in conference play. Tuesday's tip-off is set for 8 p.m.

Hopkins, along with F & M, has already clinched a playoff spot. However, in order to gain home court advantage for the entirety Centennial Conference playoffs, the Jays must secure the No. 1 seed, a seed which currently eludes them.

The Centennial Conference playoff tournament will begin on Thursday, Feb. 24, however the Jays will most likely not see action until the semi-final round on Saturday, Feb. 26, depending upon their final ranking after the conclusion of next week's conference action.

CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE BASKETBALL STANDINGS

Men's Basketball	Women's Basketball
1. Franklin & Marshall* (11-4)	1. Dickinson* (15-1)
2t. Johns Hopkins* (11-5)	2. McDaniel* (15-2)
Gettysburg* (11-5)	3. Johns Hopkins* (14-2)
Ursinus* (11-5)	4. Swarthmore (10-6)
5. Haverford (10-6)	5. Gettysburg (9-7)
6. Muhlenberg (8-8)	6. Franklin & Marshall (8-8)
7. Washington (6-9)	7. Ursinus (7-9)
8. Dickinson (5-11)	8. Muhlenberg (7-9)
9. McDaniel (3-12)	9. Washington (3-13)
10. Swarthmore (2-13)	10. Haverford (1-15)
	11. Bryn Mawr (0-17)

* Clinched playoff berth

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

For Sale
TEXTBOOKS - Buy/Sell/Trade
Get \$\$\$ - List unwanted books
WWW.QUEUEB.COM

StudentCity.com

Spring Break

Official Partner of Maxim Break

17 HOT DESTINATIONS

Book Early & Receive:

CAMPUS REPS WANTED

Travel Free & Be VIP

Free Meals

Free Drinks

Free T-Shirt

www.studentcity.com 1-888-Spring Break

Now Hiring Reps!

1-800-426-7710

SUNSPASH TOURS

.COM

REMEMBER

BOOK

SPRING-BREAK TRIP

Lowest Prices

Free Travel

Free Meals

STUDENT TRAVEL

TRAVEL LIKE YOU MEAN IT.

Cheap Student Airfares

London.....	\$260
Paris.....	\$328
Madrid.....	\$362
Amsterdam.....	\$319
Lima, Peru.....	\$464
Capetown.....	\$881
Tokyo.....	\$615
Mexico City.....	\$264

Great Trips

Let's Go Europe

» See Rome, Florence, Nice, Barcelona and everything in between from \$360.1/Air

Eurail Passes from \$241

» Huge discounts for youth under 26 yo.

Hostels & Budget Hotels

» Cheap sleeps starting from \$12/nt

STA TRAVEL

www.statravel.com

800.554.7547

Subject to change and availability. Taxes and other applicable fees are not included. Fare is roundtrip from Washington D.C. Let's Go Europe price is per person and based on double occupancy. All prices correct at time of printing and subject to change without notice.

SPORTS

Versatile senior leads Jays to playoffs

Athlete of the Week

Senior co-captain named Centennial Player of the Week

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The men's basketball team has moved back into a first-place tie with perennial power Franklin & Marshall, and this week's athlete of the week — senior co-captain Eric Toback — is one of the biggest reasons why. Toback was recognized as the Centennial Conference Men's Basketball Player of the Week, averaging 18.5 points, 7.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists and three blocks per game in the Blue Jays two wins.

"Eric may be the most versatile offensive player in Hopkins history," said Hopkins Head Coach Bill Nelson of Toback, who leads Hopkins with 13.9 points per game. Toback is also second on the team and seventh in the conference in rebounds, 6.9 per game.

"It's nice to be recognized by my school and the conference," said Toback. "It certainly helps to be surrounded by a lot of hard working guys who can help you win awards like this."

This past week, Toback guided the Blue Jays to wins over McDaniel and Haverford, as Hopkins improved to 14-8 overall and 11-5 in the conference. Toback was seven of 11 from the floor and five of eight from behind the three-point arc in this past weekend's victory over McDaniel. He totaled 23 points and eight rebounds. Against Haverford, Toback totaled seven rebounds, two assists and two blocks in the convincing 82-56 Hopkins win.

"Eric is a threat to score both inside and out at the three-point area," said Nelson. "While averaging over 15 points per game over the last two years, he is also one of the leading rebounders in the conference and will finish his career ranked in the top 20



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Centennial Player of the Week and senior co-captain Eric Toback has his hands full at Hopkins, balancing a mechanical engineering class load while leading a basketball squad with a large share of underclassmen.

in many career categories." These include three point field goal attempts and percentage, blocks (68-seventh place) and points (863-18th place).

Toback also leads the Jays, who have a deep bench and utilize those players to stay fresh, in minutes played per game (28.7).

Although Toback has been named to the Honor Roll for the Centennial Conference numerous times, this is his first Player of the Week honor.

"We played well this past week as a team, and my stat line was pretty good from the two games," said Toback.

Toback has served as a team captain for the past two years, which is a "nice honor. I'm happy my teammates respect me enough to elect me to a leadership position." As captain, Toback is depended upon to provide

vocal leadership during games, runs the team through drills in practice, and serves as in intermediary between coaches and players.

Last season, Toback was a second team All-Centennial selection. This season, in addition to winning the conference, he hopes to earn a place on the Centennial's list of first-team performers. Toback led or tied for the team lead in points scored in 10 games this year, and his 430 total points last season were the 10th-highest single-season total in school history.

A mechanical engineering major, Toback has had to balance challenging academics and sports.

"It's tough and there's a lot of work involved, but I've learned to put things in perspective and I put basketball in the forefront as much as possible." Toback chose Hopkins because it is "a top-notch academic university and

because the coaching staff wanted me to play basketball here." Being from Maryland, it was also nice to give his family the opportunity to come watch him play.

"Eric has made an important contribution as the co-captain and leader of our very young team the last two years," said Nelson. "Eric has an outstanding work ethic and handles adversity well; he patiently paid his dues as a freshman and a sophomore and played behind some talented upperclassmen. His hard work in practice during those two seasons paid big dividends for both Eric and Hopkins as he now one of the best players in the country."

After graduation in May, Toback will pursue a job with an engineering firm. But, there's always the chance of playing basketball in Europe next year, a challenge Toback is considering.

Eric may be the most versatile offensive player in Hopkins history.

— BILL NELSON, HEAD COACH

Canseco continues to cause steroid stir

Jose Canseco used steroids — a lot of steroids. Apparently he's pretty proud of it, too. His brand new tell-all book entitled *Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits & How Baseball Got Big* was released on Monday, and it names names, describes in detail how the steroids were obtained, who used them, and how often.

These indictments of current and former players — the majority of which are currently unsubstantiated — have thrown fuel on a fire that has already engulfed Major League Baseball since the news broke that Jason Giambi and Barry Bonds have used steroids.

Fans are mad. The media is even madder. But Mike Greenwell is the maddest.

Who in the name of Jesus Colombe is Mike Greenwell? I didn't know either. But Canseco probably remembers him.

Poor Greenwell finished No. 2 in the American League MVP voting to the juiced-up Bash Brother. If anything was on steroids in 1988 besides Canseco, it was his numbers (.307, 42 home runs, 124 RBI, and 40 stolen bases). Greenwell's numbers that season pale in comparison (.325, 22, 119, and 16), but the former Red Sox standout is now questioning the legitimacy of Canseco's MVP award now that his steroid use is so well-documented.

"Where's my MVP?" Greenwell told the Fort Myers News-Press in a recent interview. "(Canseco's) an admitted steroid user. I was clean. If they're going to start putting asterisks by things, let's put one by the MVP."

Greenwell won't be the only former player, media member, or fan to plead for the steroid asterisks being attached to records or awards. If the MLB so much as considers pursuing this sort of policy for former steroid-users and their juiced-up accolades, Commissioner Bud Selig will be opening up a horrific Pandora's box that can never again be closed.

The MLB has finally installed a league-wide testing program (though that has its own shortcomings). It's a small step, but it's a step. Baseball needs to stand by the progress.

Don't get me wrong, Greenwell got a raw deal. Everybody remembers Canseco's Arnold-like physique, and that combined with his ability to hit a 95-mile-an-hour fastball is pretty scary. Not exactly a fair fight for Greenwell.

But what can the MLB do? Put asterisks next to Bonds' name for each of the 845-some odd times his accomplishments put him in the record book over the past half decade? Bonds has

enjoyed the most productive and statistically dominant stretch since Babe Ruth, but the numbers are tainted.

How about the New York Yankees' American League East titles with a hormonally-enhanced Giambi putting up monster stats?

There is no way to draw a discernable line in the dirt about which accomplishments deserve an asterisk

and which ones do not. This decade's record books will look more like a constellation map than list of baseball statistics if the MLB decides to put disclaimers next.

Baseball needs to nip this in the bud — fast. The only way to handle this is to make a firm and decisive declaration that no asterisks will be attached to any past individual or team accomplishment. The embarrassing process of deciding which awards and titles were tainted would prove to be more damaging than a Randy Johnson fastball aimed at a Bud Selig's head.

The newly-enacted steroid policy should theoretically eliminate most of the use by MLB players. Even if it doesn't, baseball needs to trick fans into believing that it will. There's no other option right now.

Sorry, Mr. Greenwell. The game of baseball has more to worry about than you being able to tell your grandkids you won the '88 MVP.



JON ZIMMER
THE ARMCHAIR QB

Players still thriving in system

Nelson continues to reward team-first, hard-working hoopsters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12
and that I would have to try my chances walking on to the team," said Thompson. "That was three years ago, now I am a co-captain and the starting point guard."

Players like Thompson are more the rule than the exception, even on this year's team. Nelson talks the same way about senior forward and co-captain Eric Toback.

"Eric is the Centennial Conference Player of the Week this week, and he's an example of the kind of unselfish player we've always had," said Nelson. Toback, too, had to start from scratch, working hard and riding the bench for most of his freshman year. Today, he joins Thompson as co-captain and one of the star players on the team.

Thompson continued about his experience under Nelson: "Coach

gave me a chance to prove myself, and he grew to respect my work ethic in practice and my playing ability.

As long as the fire keeps burning and the guys keep playing hard, it's still enjoyable.

— BILL NELSON, HEAD COACH

ity, as a result I began to see more and more playing time in games, eventually playing over other recruited players."

Nelson also doesn't exempt him-

self from his lessons of teamwork. With over 300 wins under his belt, he's quick to share the credit.

"I've been smart enough to surround myself with outstanding assistants," he said of his dedicated supporting cast. "They're the backbone of this organization."

Assistant coaches Ed Richardson and Bob McCone have both been with Nelson for the long haul. McCone for 17 years and Richardson since Nelson's first day. Both work full time jobs outside of coaching, and McCone travels 45 miles each way to get to practice.

The coaches, too, believe in Nelson's system, and he rewards them with the same loyalty he shows his players. They receive plenty of responsibility and plenty of recognition for a job well done.

"Ed coaches our post players," said Nelson, "and they are year in and year out some of the best in the conference and the nation. Right now, Hopkins is number one in the conference in field goal defense."

At 62 and with over 20 total years of coaching under his belt, Nelson may see the end of his career being close. But in typical Bill Nelson fashion, his final decision will be for the team.

"As long as the fire keeps burning and the guys keep playing hard, it's still enjoyable," he said.

Eventually, though, when he feels his coaching skills are no longer serving the team, he'll step down. But just like his first successful team, he'll leave behind an impressive legacy to follow.

Change is nothing new for Nelson or for college basketball, but with his influence, the success of the program will likely remain for many years after he walks away from the game.

"The players may change but the system remains consistent," said Thompson. "I think the 300 wins that coach has accumulated under the Nelson system speaks for itself."

Track & field teams put forth strong showing

Centennial Championships coming soon

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins men's indoor track and field team finished in third place this past weekend at the Thompson Invitational, hosted by the University of Delaware.

The women's team placed sixth in one of the best meets of the season for both teams, marked by many strong performances. The College of New Jersey won on both the men's and women's side. Hopkins finished with 87 points on the men's side and 58 points on the women's.

"We had a lot of great performances and personal best times at the meet, but since the meet only lasted about two hours, people that competed in multiple events had some trouble because there wasn't enough time to recover between events." However the Jays still fared well overall.

Junior Garrett Butler earned a first place finish and 10 total points for the Blue Jays as he posted a leap of 4.1 meters in the men's pole vault. Fellow classmate and pole vaulter Ted Esborn finished fourth with a leap of 3.65 meters. In the hurdles, Hopkins accrued eight more team points as sophomore Jason Dubyoski and junior Tai Kobayashi finished in fourth and sixth place, respectively.

In the sprinting events, sophomore Shane Olaleye and junior David Dierker finished in third and sixth place, respectively, in the 400-meter dash with times of 51.61 and 53.50. Junior Andrew Bauerschmidt placed second overall in the mile run with a time of 4:32.25.

"I was glad to get a season-best time, but my goal for the indoor season is 4:24, and that's still eight seconds away," said Bauerschmidt. "Even though all of our runners will be tapering so that we can peak for conferences, I would have liked to be

a little closer to that goal last weekend."

Freshman Patrick Brandon finished the mile in 4:37.64, good for a sixth-place showing. In the 1000-meter event, freshman Jason Hortatis finished in fifth place (2:24.07), while junior Gabe Tonkin (9:38.50) and sophomore Travis Koh (9:59.30) placed fifth and sixth, respectively, in the 3000 meter run.

"Well there were a few strong performances, in view of the fact that most of the teams competing were Division I," said Bauerschmidt. "This was our last major meet before conferences, so everyone needs to really get focused. We had an extremely disappointing finish at the championships last year, and are hoping to drastically change that."

Rounding out a strong perfor-

We had an extremely disappointing finish at the championships last year, and are hoping to drastically change that.

— ANDREW BAUERSCHEIDT, JUNIOR

mance by the men's team, four Blue Jays finished in the top nine of the 500-meter run, collecting a total of 10 team points. Junior Aaron Landgraf was third with a time of 1:10.20, while freshman Eric Miller ran a time of 1:11.11 in sixth place. Freshman James Bronson and sophomore Brian Giglio finished eighth and ninth, with



WILL KIRK/FILE PHOTO

The men's team placed third at the Thompson Invitational while the women finished sixth overall.

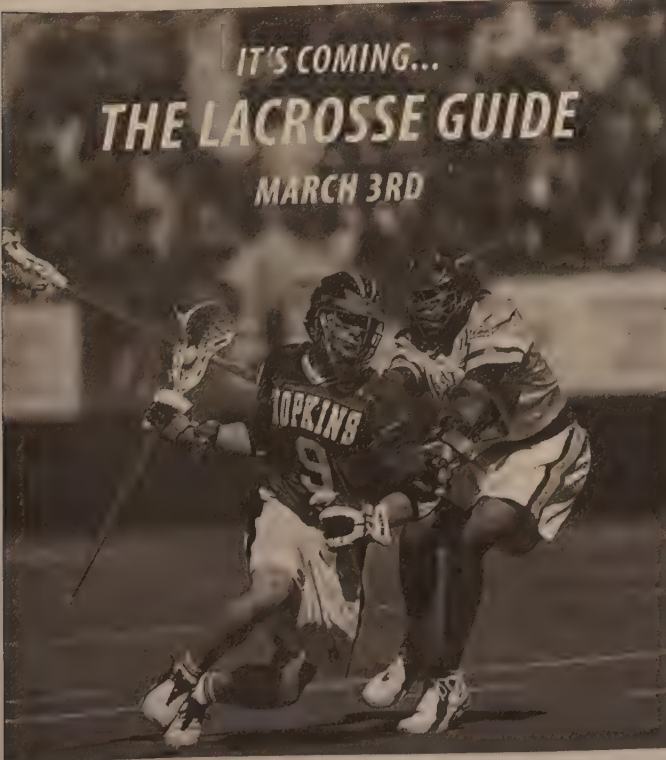
times of 1:12.56 and 1:14.19.

On the women's side, there were three strong second place finishes that set the pace for the Jays. Junior Andrea King throw of 11.39 meters in the shot put earned eight points for Hopkins.

Freshman Julie Blumreiter also finished in second place in the high jump, clearing a jump of 1.45 meters. Freshman Jessica Reeves was the third woman to score for the Blue Jays, finishing in fourth place in the pole vault (2.55 meters). All told, the field events accounted for 21 points of the team's 58 points.

In another second-place finish, junior Kathy Cain finished the 500-meter run in 1:33.51. Sophomore Joseph Grisell ran a 1:03.00 in the 400-meter dash to pick up a fifth place finish as well as four team points for the Blue Jays. Senior Maureen Kimsey placed fifth for the Jays with a time of 2:42.30 in the 800-meter run. Freshman Angela Kaon placed third in the 1000 meter run while freshman Javi Hartenstive ran a 5:36.31 mile for a third place finish overall and six team points for the Jays.

Both teams will compete in the Keough Invitational this upcoming weekend at Haverford College while preparing for Centennial Conference Championships at the end of the month in Carlisle, Penn.



IT'S COMING...
THE LACROSSE GUIDE
MARCH 3RD

CALENDAR

NO GAMES SCHEDULED.

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Pending league approval of the sale of the Minnesota Vikings, Arizona businessman Reggie Fowler will become the first-ever African-American owner in the NFL. Approximately 60 percent of the NFL's players are black.

M. B'ball falls from top spot with loss

Hopkins loses final home game of the season to Gettysburg

BY MELISSA KIM
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Haverford College Fords were clearly no match for the Johns Hopkins men's basketball team as it picked up another Centennial Conference win on Saturday to move back into a first-place tie with Franklin & Marshall in the regular season standings rankings.

But on Wednesday night, the Blue Jays lost to Gettysburg and fell back into a three-way tie for the second place poll spot in the conference. Hopkins played in its final home game of the regular season — hosting the Gettysburg Bullets who are currently 14-9 overall and tied for second place with Hopkins and Ursinus in the conference with a 11-5 record after their 63-60 win over the Jays.

Gettysburg's Mike Spadafora led the Bullets over the Jays with 14 points and 11 rebounds total. Sophomore Danny Nawrocki was the top scorer of the night for Hopkins with 16 total points. Both players played the vital role for the two respective teams in the final seconds of the game.

With only 41 seconds to go Spadafora brought the Bullets to a three-point lead, 61-58 after hitting a runner in the lane. Hopkins fouled Matt Whelan of Gettysburg, who made both of his shots to increase his team's lead to 63-58. After two failed attempts to get off a three-pointer on the Jays side, Nawrocki nailed a three-footer in the final 0.3 seconds of the game. The Jays lost by just three points.

After the loss to the Bullets, Hopkins has a record of 14-8 overall and 11-5 in conference play, while Haverford dropped to 11-10 overall and 10-5 in the conference after the weekend game.

The Jays defeated the Fords, 82-56, with Nawrocki leading the charge with 16 points and 11 rebounds. Nawrocki posted his sixth double-double of the season during the contest.

"We knew going into the game that it was going to be really important

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10



Sophomore forward Dan Nawrocki and the Jays came up just short against the Gettysburg Bullets on Wednesday night, dropping Hopkins into a three-way tie for second in the Centennial Conference standings.

ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

COVERAGE

Athlete of the Week:
Eric Toback

The men's hoops team is in a three-way tie for second after a tough loss, but Toback and his teammates are hoping for revenge at F&M. Page A11

Track teams fare well in Delaware

The men's team placed third at the University of Delaware in the Thompson Invitational while the women were sixth. Page A11

Updated Centennial Hoops standings

Women's basketball continues to keep pace with McDaniel, trailing the Green Terror by a half game after two wins this week. Page A10

'Nelson system' is now a Hopkins hoops hallmark

Coach Bill Nelson reaches 300-win plateau this season

BY ZACH GOODMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

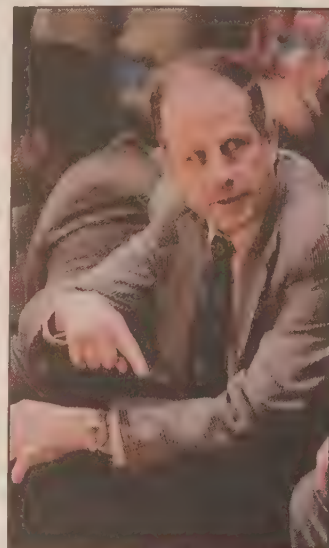
Men's head basketball coach Bill Nelson reached two impressive career milestones this year: he recorded his 300th career victory, and his tenure at Hopkins reached the age of his players. The timing, then, is appropriate for a look back at Nelson's 19 successful years, in which he's become the most winning coach in the history of Johns Hopkins basketball.

"If you do what's best for the team," said Nelson, "then you can't go wrong." That simple mantra has guided Nelson's teams since he arrived at Hopkins in 1986. Ironically, as adept as Nelson is at honing his players' on-court skills, he depends on his teams to develop something a coach cannot read about in any basketball textbook: camaraderie.

"We have had outstanding young men on our teams," Nelson said. "Not just from a basketball standpoint; they're quality individuals. I think the greatest satisfaction I have is watching the friendships develop between the players." These friendships, and the teamwork that is a natural byproduct of them, consistently makes the difference between good and great teams. They have also been the defining characteristic of Nelson's teams, starting with his first success story.

Coming from Nazareth College to Hopkins in the mid 80s, Nelson inherited a team that went 6-18. As he gently put it, the men's team was "not very good." The next season, five freshman recruits won lineup spots and Nelson immediately had them playing together as a formidable unit. Even with the pressure of becoming the nucleus of a varsity team as rookies, the freshmen sparked that team to a respectable 12-12 finish. These players grew together, going 17-10 their sophomore year during the '88-'89 season, then 20-8 and 19-10 in their junior and senior years, respectively. The team went to the NCAA Tournament in each of those last two years, advancing as far as the Sweet Sixteen during the '89-'90 season.

That close-knit group of players has stood as the model for all of



MARK MEHLINGER/FILE PHOTO

Nelson inherited a floundering team in '86, but quickly rebuilt the Jays into a playoff contender.

Nelson's future teams, espousing strong bonds between players on the road to consistent, long-term success unprecedented in the Hopkins basketball program. After that original group graduated, the next group to matriculate was eager to step in and show they could continue to build upon the start of a winning tradition established by Nelson's first recruiting class. They went 20-8 and garnered the Blue Jays their first national ranking, climbed as high as No. 13 during that season.

Those teams of the late 80s and early 90s were sterling examples of the "Nelson system" of coaching working perfectly. Nelson is a proponent of promoting work ethic, selflessness, and — above all else — teamwork. For Nelson, players who buy into this philosophy will be more than great basketball players; they will be great people. And if a player proves loyal to the Nelson system, Nelson will be loyal to him.

Nelson's team-oriented coaching style are what turned junior point guard and co-captain Jeff Thompson on to Hopkins. Even while being recruited by Division III and Division I schools, Thompson chose to play for Hopkins when he knew all the roster spots had already been filled.

"Coach told me quite frankly that he thought I was good enough to play but he could not guarantee me a spot

CONTINUED ON PAGE A11

Wrestlers ready for postseason

Seniors hoping for NCAA berths with Centennial wins

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Despite a mediocre 8-8 season Hopkins hopes to perform well at the Centennial Conference Tournament this weekend at Muhlenberg College. The seniors look to stand a chance to make a run for the championships in their respective weight classes. Winning a weight class at Conference Championships automatically assures an athlete of a bid to wrestle at nationals.

Ursinus stands as the defending two-year champion with a perfect 17-0 dual record and a No. 23 national ranking and will play against Gettysburg, Johns Hopkins, McDaniel, Muhlenberg and Washington and Lee, along with first-time conference members Kings Point and Stevens in the 12th annual championship game.

Sophomore Jimmy Van Daniker leads the Jays in the 125-pound weight class while classmate Marco Priolo looks to win in the 141-pound weight class. Freshman Eric Fishel also stands a chance in the 174-pound weight class. The seniors look to finish strong in their final scheduled meet of the season. Seniors Joe Selba, 165-pound



MIKE SCHUMP/FILE PHOTO

The wrestling team struggled with injuries for much of the season, but finished on a strong note. The Jays now have high playoff hopes.

weight class, Tony Dambro (197), and Dave DeGaravilla (285) all look for a shot to compete at nationals.

The Jays evened out their season record last week as they won against Washington and Lee, Limestone and Albright. Van Daniker finished the day with a perfect score, after picking up pins in his matches against Washington and Lee and Albright. Van Daniker picked up a 4-2 win against Limestone. Senior heavyweight Dave de Garavilla also had a perfect day starting with a 8-1 victory. Against Limestone de Garavilla also came out

on top, 13-3. He also gained a forfeit win against Albright.

It's going to take a lot of focus to win at conferences," said Van Daniker. The competition at conferences will be tough and one loss puts each and every athlete out of the conference and out of a chance at nationals. "You've got to be champion to advance at conferences and make it to the next step," Van Daniker is one of only three wrestlers to eclipse 20 wins, with the other two being senior co-captains DeGaravilla and 197-pounder Tony Dambro.

W. B'ball hoping for strong finish

Jays win sixth straight at home

BY BRYAN CURTIN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Johns Hopkins women's basketball team extended its winning streak to six games this week, defeating conference rival Haverford 87-49 this past Saturday and making easy work of a visiting Gettysburg squad on Wednesday night with a 70-52 win over the Bullets.

Senior guard Alyssa Burkholder was the offensive catalyst against Gettysburg, racking up 15 points including nine points from beyond the three-point arc. Senior guard Ashley Felix contributed another well-rounded performance, with six points, five assists, eight steals and four rebounds.

Hopkins took advantage of an early lead that grew to 12 points by the end of the first half, resting many of the starters and providing reserves with important minutes that may come in handy come playoff time. Nine Blue Jays played at least 10 minutes in this game, and all but two players on the roster scored three or more points.

Hopkins maintained its defensive intensity throughout Wednesday's easy win, holding the Bullets to a 28.3 percent shooting percentage (17-60). Kathryn Reilly and Emily Falk accounted for 28 of the Bullets' 52 points. The rest of Gettysburg's starters and reserves struggled to provide much offensive punch.

Sophomore guard Haley Wojdowski had a career night against the visiting Fords, dropping in 19 points and six rebounds in her 23 minutes of play to lead all scorers. Senior forward Ashanna Randall also had a double-double, recording 11 points and 11 rebounds.

"Haley has really stepped up into the starting role and



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Sophomore guard Julie Miller and the Blue Jays are riding a six-game winning streak after this week.

shown great promise for the future," said head coach Nancy Funk. "I wasn't surprised at all to see her have a night like this. With her talent, it was only a matter of time."

Randall now has 973 career points, just 27 short of the 1,000-point plateau. She was averaging 10.4 points per game heading into Wednesday night, tied for second best on the team. Randall also has 695 career rebounds, which

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

The B Section

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005



Drinker Beer and Cider Festival

London, England
March 16-18

Maslenista

Siberia, Russia
March 7-13



Las Fallas

Valencia, Spain
March 13-19



Hounen Matsuri

Komaki, Japan
March 15

Spring Break Worldwide

Page
B2

FEATURES

Spring into action

Once the weather stops being schizophrenic and stays consistently warm, you'll be looking for something nice to do outdoors. We've got it covered. Page B4.

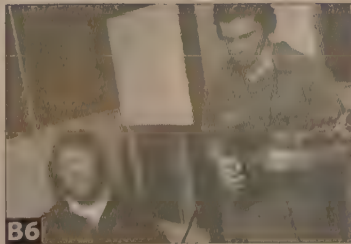


B4

ARTS

Our Golden Gate

Don't know much about The Bridge, that local band that's playing Great Hall this Saturday? We've got an exclusive interview with the Baltimore natives. Page B6.



B6

PHOTO ESSAY

Ecuador-session

While you were playing Mario Kart over Intercession, 12 Hopkins students travelled to Ecuador to climb mountains and bring food to the needy. Page B12.



B12

SPRING BREAKFOCUS

Offbeat trips that will beat Cancun any day

BY MATT HANSEN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Take a trip over to the Registrar's Office and give the first staff member you see a hug. Why? The schedule mavens within this office have given you a Spring Break impeccably scheduled to so that you may forget the white sand beaches littered with Corona bottles and take a trip elsewhere — a trip to one of the many spring celebrations around the globe that will make a vacation to a sunny locale with buxom young women and strapping young men seem like an afternoon spent with your octogenarian aunt.

Let's begin with our own United States. For cruciverbalists, the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament (March 11-13) in Stamford, Conn., offers a chance to meet crossword despot Will Shortz and indulge in free wine and cheese while furiously filling out small squares for a shot at the \$1000 jackpot. If finer pursuits are calling, the Dirt Bag Ball (March 11) in Bozeman, Mo., features ski bums doused in mud jitterbugging. St. Urho's Day (March 16) brings together the 100-strong Finnish population of Hood River, Ore., in a celebration of the saint who saved Finland's wine grapes from a plague of grasshoppers. Sweetwater, Texas, invites all comers to The World's Largest Rattlesnake Roundup (March 12-13), where cowboys amble along, yanking rattlesnakes from their dens and weighing them for cash prizes. Currently, the market price for one pound of rattlesnake at the Roundup is \$4, though event planners hint that it might shoot up to a tantalizing \$8.50.

And if you find an international locale is more appealing, the Apoo Celebration (March 12-25) in Wenchi, Ghana features locals parading down the city streets shouting away evil and publicly lambasting passersby who have committed wrongdoing.

While it's mainly townsfolk who get reprimanded, there is apparently quite a bit of local cuisine to gorge away your troubles nevertheless. Staying in Africa, the Famidhana celebration takes place throughout March in Antananarivo, Madagascar. Dead relatives' remains are dug up and cleaned while families celebrate raucously.

If the exhumations and public scorning is too much for you, consider Maslenitsa (March 7-13), the "Russian Mardi Gras" celebrated throughout Russia, but particularly in Siberia. Rejoicing in a week of libations (that means vodka) before a month of fasting is guaranteed to liven up the tundra, as is the scramble up a

40-foot pole in one's underwear or the glorified snowball fight where attackers attempt to defeat defenders of an eight-foot snow wall.

Hounen Matsuri (March 15) brings the townsfolk of Komaki, Japan, to their feet like no eight foot snow wall ever could. A day of offerings in the shrine of Tagata Jinja in the name of world peace and bumper crops, Hounen Matsuri climaxes with the townsfolk parading a two-foot wide, six-foot long wooden penis through the streets. After the parade, it is obligatory to take a picture holding the penis for good luck. In years past, there has been a brass vulva shrine where festival goers take turns rubbing good luck charms.

The London Drinker Beer & Cider Festival (March 16-18) does not have penis emblems. It does, however, have such quality quaffs as Acorn South Yorkshire Barnsley Gold, Blanchfield Raging Bull, and Daleside North Yorkshire Shrimpers Bitter. For those of you who are familiar only with the warm, stale beer of college fame, a London drinker will be waiting to indoctrinate you into the ways of British ales. A special feminine line of drinks is also an option, with gentler names: Fine Soft Day, Gold, Raspberry Wheat and Lemon Dream, among others.

Moving to a warmer climate brings you to Las Fallas (March 13-19) in Valencia, Spain. Groups parade gigantic floats of wax and wood down the streets of the Mediterranean city to the cheers of the masses. On the night of the 19th, the floats are burnt in a massive communal bonfire. Have the last laugh over all the naysayers who told you that you couldn't be a princess in first grade by being voted one of the Fallas Princesses and accompanying the floats down the parade. Or alternatively, if princesses are what you're after, congregate with the other hopeful young Valencians and impress her with your Spanglish.

For hundreds of years, Kathmandu symbolized the exoticism of the undiscovered Eastern lands.

Now, it hosts jazz acts. The Jazzmandu Festival (March 11-27) fortunately avoids lounge acts and the accompanying old-lady-panty-throwing and centers instead on quality international bands. Indonesian, American, English, African and Norwegian Coltranes are lined up for this year's festival, which bills itself as "the biggest jazz festival in the Himalayas." At press time, it appeared to be the only jazz festival in the Himalayas, in case you were concerned.

See that beaten path? Take a step off of it and enjoy a Spring Break that will awe your friends, enlighten your colleagues and charm your significant other, at least, that is, until next year.

Hillel to help Habitat on alternative break

Students to spend a week in March building homes for low income El Paso residents

BY GINA CALLAHAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

When some of their classmates will be lounging on sunny beaches, basking in the luxury of a week free of classes, nine Hopkins students will be putting down their notebooks and problem sets in exchange for construction paraphernalia. They'll be spending spring break in El Paso, Texas at one of the city's Habitat for Humanity sites.

The uncharacteristic March trip is one of those offered annually by Hopkins Hillel. Yearly projects alternate between community service in the United States and abroad.

Senior Aron Davidowitz was among a group of students that spent Spring Break 2003 on a Habitat site in El Paso.

Having had a positive experience building housing in one of El Paso's low-income areas, this year he is helping Hillel's assistant director Rachel Heimann organize the event. "I went on this trip two years ago," he said. "This time I'm taking on more of a planning role."

The El Paso program was selected as this year's project in order to give students a chance to see and to serve a new place.

"It's nice to give back to a different community," Heimann said. "It's warm, few students have been there, and when we went there last time we had a wonderful time."

Alternative spring breaks, like the Hopkins trip, which is sponsored by Hillel and requires that students supply only \$300 of the \$1,000 it will cost to transport, house, feed and entertain each student in the group, are becoming increasingly popular.

At some schools, trips allow students to complete compulsory community service. There are companies that ally with schools or student groups to organize trips. And while some, like the one Davidowitz is organizing, have a religious affiliation, others do not.

One of the most memorable aspects of the 2003 trip to El Paso, according to Davidowitz, was working with a group of students from Creighton University, a Jesuit school in Omaha, Neb., that had driven down to help out on the same Habitat site.

"It was one of the highlights," he said. "You know, meeting other college students who nobody would have met otherwise."

He noted that it was particularly interesting to watch the interaction between Jewish and Catholic students all of varied practicing levels. "Just the conversations that came up. They would say, 'Kosher? What does that mean,'" he said.

The opportunity to spend time



COURTESY OF RACHAEL HEINMANN

On Hillel's 2003 spring break trip to El Paso 2004 grad Yehuda Kranzler helped build homes with Habitat.

within the Jewish community is something Davidowitz feels draws students to the alternative spring break trip. "From talking to them, the general theme was motivation to do community service," he said. "Number two was to get to know another group of Jewish students on campus." The group will be a diverse one, with students from each class year.

The Hopkins students will spend four days around the Habitat site, spending their nights in church basements or community centers. After completing a day's work they'll participate in social activities aimed at developing their Jewish faith or just having fun. The agenda might even include a little local sight seeing. "We went line dancing one night last time we were down there," Davidowitz said.

The last two days of the trip will be spent interacting with members of El Paso's Jewish community. Families in the community hosted Hopkins students every night on the trip two years ago.

Planning for Hillel's spring break trips generally begins at the end of first semester, for those interested

in future projects. This early time commitment might have influenced the low application turnout the group received this year, according to Davidowitz.

But nonetheless, those who are attending the trip this Spring Break have a memorable experience ahead of them.

"It's designed to take 10 Jewish Hopkins students, who may or may not know each other, and throw them into an intense environment for a week," he said. "They then come back to Hopkins and apply these lessons."

Protect yourself and your pockets when you travel this spring break

BY GARRETT LEONARD
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Too many college students suffer from the "it won't happen to me" mentality when it comes to taking their spring break trips. The result is thousands of college students getting scammed for hundreds of dollars on what they thought would be a bargain spring break vacation.

If the victims of these scams had just exercised a few preventive measures, they would have avoided a lot of anguish by uncovering the deceitful intentions of the con artists with seductive vacation offers.

Vacation scams come in several varieties. Some are seemingly harmless but end up tacking on many hidden charges. The extra fees take different forms, including exorbitant transportation fees from the airport to the hotel, where you are charged for gas and other costs.

Another common scam tactic is for your return flight to be delayed for a few days, which forces you to remain at the hotel for a longer time. The hotel then charges you inflated rates since you have no choice but to stay there as you wait for your flight.

To avoid hidden charges, make sure you have the vacation deal in writing and know exactly what you will be paying for. Ask the travel company if there will be any additional charges and tell them that you want to know about charges upfront before you accept the travel package. If it is a scam, the travel agents will usually become hesitant to put the costs in writing or talk about other charges.

Other scams give you vouchers that are supposed to be redeemed later, but when you get to your destination you discover that the coupons are no good, either through some fine print stipulations or because the com-

pany refuses to accept them. Coupons in general are a bad idea unless you are working through an extremely reputable travel company or have the deal in writing.

Sometimes the travel company will stick in extra expenses for services or products you never received.

It's extremely easy to overlook these costs, and that's why it is a good idea to protect yourself by paying everything with your credit card. This is because you are protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act, which is a federal law that allows you to put in a written complaint to your credit card company for charges that were wrongfully incurred. The credit card company will investigate the claim, and if it finds you in favor it will reverse the charges.

The worst types of scams are where you pay for your trip, only to discover that the travel company who sold you the vacation has become "bankrupt." This scam leaves you with no trip and no refund of money. The best possible protection against this spring break scam is to make sure your travel company is a member of the United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA).

The USTOA is an organization that aims to maintain the integrity of travel companies. Members are required to be honest and straightforward with charges, and the \$1 Million Consumer Protection Plan ensuring that you, the consumer, are protected against scams. The USTOA only allows reputable travel companies to join and ensures their financial stability so even if the company goes bankrupt you will be refunded.

If you are getting a chartered flight from a travel company you can verify its registration with the Department

of Transportation. Just obtain the charter's name and address by calling the Public Charter licensing division at (202) 366-2396.

Even during your trip you have to be careful. Just use common sense with a hint of the advice your mother told you a hundred times before and you'll be fine.

Don't accept open drinks from strangers and don't leave your beverage unattended. Don't sleep with a stranger. Never travel anywhere alone and make sure to use the buddy system so you can keep track of your friends. Remember never to leave your hotel keys unattended and lock up any valuables in the hotel safe.

To avoid theft, put a few dollars in your pocket and pay with that money so you aren't constantly taking out your wallet and revealing what pocket it is in.

Girls, make sure your purses are slung across your shoulders. Guys, don't put your wallets in your back pockets. Be suspicious if someone bumps into you, since thieves often use this as a tactic to ensure you don't notice the removal of your wallet.

Put only the credits cards and money you know you are going to use in your wallet since anything extra will be an unnecessary risk.

If you're feeling particularly worried about having your money stolen, you can even carry around a fake wallet with a few dollars and fake credit cards (the ones you receive in the mail as advertisements will work fine) in case you are mugged.

Don't feel like you have to be paranoid during your entire trip — just make sure you're always aware of your surroundings and use some basic common sense. With these tips in mind you can enjoy a safe, fun Spring Break.

SPRING BREAK LAST MINUTE: ONLINE HELP

Procrastinators beware: Spring Break, that glorious school-free week, is coming up in a little more than three weeks. Although it would have been a better idea to plan your trip to paradise (or Canada, depending on your preferences) in advance, it's not quite too late to book a flight and hotel. If you had more time, contacting individual airlines and hotel chains would be your best bet for finding reasonable and reliable deals. But contacting every hotel along the beaches of the Bahamas isn't in your pressed-for-time agenda. Instead, try these Web sites that cater to last-minute spring breakers like yourself. While browsing them, be a little skeptical and don't expect the greatest traveling luxuries — if it sounds too good to be true, there's probably a good reason.

<http://www.springbreakdirect.com>
(410) 750-2205

One of the standout features of this site is that, up front, it has a link to the Better Business Bureau (BBB), in testament to its reputation. It's also based right down the road in Ellicott City, Md. — if you really wanted to, you could hop in your car and visit the Spring Break Direct home base. It offers travel packages to the Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, several cities in Mexico, and a handful of U.S. destinations, mostly in Florida. As with any travel package site, prices vary, but are for the most part rea-

sonable, and include a basic "Party Package," a spring break staple that consists of special deals for the nightlife of your destination. The Web site itself is a breeze to navigate, which is a plus for the impatient or less knowledgeable travelers.

<http://www.ststravel.com>
(800) 648-4849

Another travel site based in Maryland (this time Glen Burnie), Student Travel Services (STS) is also BBB-approved. The prices are a little higher on this one, especially for packages involving accommodations at well-known hotel chains, so make sure to really shop around before booking here. Destinations available through STS include the Bahamas, Florida, Jamaica and Mexico. Depending on which place you plan to visit, there are meal plans and VIP Packages available, at an extra cost.

<http://www.orbitz.com>

If money isn't an issue for you and your fellow travelers, this well-known travel site is an option. Though the high prices are quite the downside, you can choose to book a flight and hotel pretty much any place your little heart desires, so if being surrounded by a bunch of drunk kids at MTV's Spring Break locales isn't very appealing to you, it might be worth the extra cash.

<http://www.springbreaktravel.com>

Unlike the other spring break Web sites, this one doesn't proudly display its little BBB badge of honor,

which might not be the best sign. However, it does show a few pictures of men in suits accepting certificates and awards, in honor of their "outstanding marketplace ethics." With that in mind, be skeptical when using this Web site. It offers destinations at the basic vacation spots, including the Bahamas, Florida, Jamaica and Mexico. The prices are really cheap — almost too inexpensive, considering the basic costs of airfare and flight alone to tropical locales — though some of the flights departing from Baltimore are already full. It offers reviews of some of the hotels available, which is a nice feature, although a simple internet search could probably give you less skewed opinions of the accommodations.

<http://www.springbreakdiscounts.com>
(888) 844-6578

This BBB-approved site not only has travel packages to the usuals (Bahamas, Florida, Jamaica and Mexico), it also has a custom trip option. The prices of travel packages, which include airfare, hotel reservations and a basic party package, range from reasonably inexpensive to a little on the high side, depending on what accommodations you'd prefer. Obviously, an all-inclusive stay at a four-star hotel located directly on the beach is going to cost more than a standard, less extravagant hotel that's down the road from any body of water.

— compiled by Melissa Artnak

FEATURES

The future looks good for Uni-Mini

Life behind the counter is going well—both in terms of business and the world at large



Uni-Mini has had years of success in its current location, but will be forced to move elsewhere soon.

BY ISHAI MOOREVILLE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Paper bills from nations around the world are taped to the wall above the check-out counter at the University Mini-Mart. To store owner Sam Hamideh, this collage represents his vision for the future.

"I want to show that people every-

where are united," said Hamideh, who never hesitates to share his infectious charm with customers.

For twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week, the University Mini-Mart occupies an important niche in the local food landscape. Part Seven-Eleven, part Middle Eastern delicatessen, Uni-Mini (as it is affectionately known) serves

the Hopkins student body with almost any item they could possibly need.

Besides the normal convenience store items, Uni-Mini offers falafel sandwiches, life-size Hookah pipes and even ping pong balls for all those Beirut games.

There isn't much more a college kid could ask for.

Hamideh has run the store on the corner of 33rd and St. Paul Streets with his two sons for 12 years. Above all, he prides himself on the friendly relations they have with their customers.

"We have an excellent relationship with kids from Hopkins," he said. "We consider ourselves a 'mom and pop' store. We try to make things the way students like it."

Hamideh was born in the city of Ramallah in the West Bank, and considers himself a Palestinian. He moved to this country for improved economic opportunities some 25 years ago and has never looked back.

While the television in the store is frequently tuned to CNN or Headline News, Hamideh says he often prays that peace will someday return to his home country.

"Every time I see a mother with tears in her eyes, either Israeli or Palestinian, I have a deep pain inside," he said. "Both sides are stubborn. They have to realize they nobody can have all the pie."

One day, when peace eventually comes, Hamideh says he would like to throw a big block party on St. Paul for all Palestinians and Israelis with free food and music. Students who frequent the shop, whether it be for cigarettes or sandwiches, have nothing but praise for the friendly employees.

"When you go there, you feel like you're supporting people you actually like," said senior Maha Jafri.

Business has thrived in their current location, with a steady stream of locals running in and out of the store at all times.

Royal Farms used to be their primary competition across the street, but since that store's closure last summer, Uni-Mini has acquired a virtual monopoly on late night food runs. They began to stay open 24/7 to account for the nighttime business that Royal Farms had formerly served.

Hamideh operated several convenience stores in locations around the city before finally opening his Hopkins branch. Today he owns the Hopkins store and one additional store outside Annapolis.

The sandwich menu at Uni-Mini features best-sellers like chicken parmesan and stromboli, as well as

When you go there,
you feel like you're
supporting people
you actually like
—MAHA JAFRI, SENIOR

more traditional sandwiches like roast beef and turkey.

The store itself is small, but jampacks a variety of essential college staples. Ramen noodles, Fruit Loops, Campbell's Chunky Soup and Gatorade are among the offerings.

They just recently added pizza to their menu and Hamideh hopes to be offering slices-to-go in the near future. No matter the space constraints, he finds a way to make it work if there is demand.

"We're independent, not a chain, so I can add anything I want," said Hamideh.

At the back of the store, Uni-Mini offers some more eclectic items, such as Hookah pipes with elongated smoking necks and over twenty types of flavored tobacco, popular items in the Middle East.

While Royal Farms used to be robbed quite frequently, Hamideh says that crime has never been a problem for his store. He makes sure there are always at least two people on duty at all times to serve as a deterrent to would-be criminals.

In the future, Uni-Mini plans to move across the street next to Subway after an ongoing development project is completed. Streuver Brothers is in the process of purchasing the Wawa fraternity house which currently houses Uni-Mini. The developer plans to replace the row houses alongside both sides of St. Paul with new retail spaces and apartment complexes.

Hamideh hopes to have a much larger space in the new location, and plans to add a Shwarma stand and seating area to his regular offerings.

No matter what changes the future might bring, Hamideh promises that Uni-Mini will continue to be a haven for the hungry college student, be it day or night.



Lt. Ritmiller gives Officer Reinhold a pep talk before he goes on duty.

Off-duty cops start night shifts at JHU

BY MATT HANSEN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

"Did you dress warmly tonight?" The question is for laughs. Officer Ryan Rinehart of the Baltimore Police Department puts his hands on his bulky police-issue jacket.

"Absolutely." He glances at the patrol map.

A half-hour later on Friday, February 11, when Rinehart hit the streets, he became the first off-duty police officer hired by Johns Hopkins to work the night shift. Neither Rinehart nor Hopkins Security Lieutenant William Ritmiller were concerned about what the night would bring. Reinhold, for one, has been here before.

"I used to work the fifteen car," which patrols Charles Village. "I worked in this neighborhood for three years, and I don't live far away," he said.

On Friday night, he worked the car again, patrolling the 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. shift before another officer took over the 1 a.m. to 8 a.m. shift. "I certainly don't do this for the money," he says. "I do it to be a deterrent to crime."

Technically he is off-duty, though he retains the uniform and remains armed. "You are always on-duty as a police officer, twenty-four hours a day," he says.

He carries the power to arrest, but says, "that's not what I'm here to do. I'm here to keep away crime—to make everyone feel and be safer."

Should an arrest occur, however, both Hopkins and the Police Department will be notified. The off-duty

program is sanctioned by the Department, though Rinehart says, "I stay out of the politics."

Officers like Rinehart, who work their beats in the car, patrol Charles Street and Calvert Street from University Avenue to 28th Street, explains Lieutenant Ritmiller, while officers on foot patrol also work certain areas in the neighborhood. This supplements the four additional Hopkins Security patrols that work the campus and surrounding areas. Add Hopkins Security investigators to that mix, and any given evening could see nearly ten Hopkins-affiliated security patrols in the Charles Village neighborhood.

With that large of a presence, Rinehart is more than aware that tensions could run a bit high. "We're not here to harass or arrest students," he says. "If Hopkins Security can't handle the situation, then we take the appropriate steps."

Ritmiller notes that Rinehart and the other officers on the beat are essentially volunteering their time.

"We've had police from all over the city come and want to be part of the program," he says. "So we've worked out rotating shifts so that they can do that. All these officers are very experienced, usually having been around the area—none of them have cold feet."

For now, at least, it seems that Hopkins doesn't either, and Rinehart hopes it stays that way.

"When I worked the fifteen car, I enjoyed interacting with the students, having conversations," he says. "I hope that continues."

Girls can take things into their own hands

Last weekend, on a short trip home, I checked my text messages and receive one that said, "In the sex shop, I want me to pick you up a vibrator?" Apparently, a group of my female friends decided there was safety in numbers and it was time for them to take matters into their own hands, since other people's hadn't been cutting it recently.

What stands out to me is that it took them so long to decide that it was time to take their sex lives into their own hands and that they really could only muster the balls to do it in a group. Not to say that sex-toy shopping isn't fun when you can laugh with other people, but knowing yourself biblically shouldn't take critical mass.

As far as guys are concerned, they generally get masturbation down pretty quickly. It's pretty simple, and I doubt that any guy needs a how-to lesson.

Girls are a little more complicated. What doesn't help is the fact that even though a lot of girls do it, no one talks about it. Each girl has a reason why she doesn't do it or doesn't talk about it, but all it comes down to for a lot of girls is fear of failure. According to *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, a recent national survey revealed that 58 percent of women in the U.S. don't let their

hands do the walking, and of those who do, 47 percent feel it's confessional worthy.

For a lot of girls, however, guilt's not the thing. Often it's that they don't want to start because they aren't exactly sure how to finish. Unfortunately, this lack of knowing yourself can translate into problems with your significant other. I don't think you can ask to have a guy get you off without being able to do it yourself.

So what's first? Honestly, I will break girl ranks here and I would stay away from the vibrators, etc. Although *Sex and the City* made the rabbit all the rage, I personally think they're a little intimidating. All you really need some lube (personal or store bought) a good imagination and a hand.

So where to start? Like everything for girls, it's in your head. You

need to *relax*. Trying to force yourself to relax isn't going to cut it. The more pressure you put on yourself the less anything is going to flow. This means lock the door and turn off AIM. If there's something you begin to worry about as the process goes on, take care of it, even if it breaks the mood for a second. The last thing you need is to take forever and end up explaining the reason

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

Akbar raises the bar for good Indian cuisine in Baltimore

For Valentine's Day, I went out with two other guys to an Indian restaurant. I thought it would be really romantic. Akbar is a sunken-fronted restaurant on Charles street just north of Peabody, and it's well worth the shuttle trip down from Homewood to get there.

The whole area contains a brilliant array of food and Akbar is at the forefront of the booming lunch-buffet scene, including Fortune Szechwan, Kumari, and many others along Charles Street.

The place was packed, this is where people go for Indian food. In the foyer, waiting for our table, it was hard not to notice the abundance of awards Akbar won in the last 12 years. All these lauds are deserved. This is an *Indian Restaurant* with two capital letters and italic type.

The chicken and lamb in the curries is tender, the rice is fluffy, long-grained and colorful. The lassis are sweet or mango—if you want salt you have to ask. It also bears mentioning that if you drink salt lassis you probably already have a favorite Indian place.

Here's the really important information: when you sit down, there will be a basket of crispy flatbread, and three sauces. The first five minutes of conversation will be about what they are, whether they are spicy or not, tangy, vegetarian, etc. I'm going to save you some time. The thin brown one is sweet,

made of tamarind (a tangy fruit that sometimes is made into a spicy paste, but mostly not) and some seasonings. The thicker green one that looks somewhere between chimichurri and salsa verde is a little spicy, very herby, and with a little vinegar in as well.

The down-right chunky red one is an awesome spicy beet chutney

thing. It tastes so good it should be elected to some sort of public office. There's a good layer of spice going on making the rich beet flavor a little hard to discern, and all the tastier when you figure it out. The texture of the paste picks up perfectly on that dense beet chewiness and makes a very good chutney.

The naan at Akbar is a little lighter and chewier on the inside, while remaining blacker on the outside, than neighboring naans (like at Kumari).

KEVIN CLARK

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

If you like the blackened bits on pizza crusts, this is the place to go for naan. Also, the naan is just great for picking up bits of stew strewn over rice. If you feel weird eating with your fingers, you should really get over it, grabbing at stuff with naan is really the best thing to do.

Your curry will look small, and come in a lovely metal bowl set over a tea-light candle, kind of like those scented oil things you get in very expensive gift shops in malls. I'm not convinced that keeping the stew over a candle is a good idea here either; I'm just not sure the food stays that much warmer in exchange for having that much fire on the table.

The Vindaloo, my barometer of Indian restaurants, is a little creamy instead of being a bowl of fire. That may be because there's a little bit more potato than usual getting starch into the stew, making it smooth. Tamarind chicken is a welcome house specialty—it has the sweetness and the tang, and they'll throw in the spice if you ask. Spiced up it tastes like vindaloo retired to Italian coastline after a long career. Lamb Rogan Josh is worth eating, unspectacular though.

The service was so incredibly tight that not only did our food rest on a tray next to our table for a good five minutes before it made that last final jump to the table, but also two pitchers of water made it to two separate glasses on our table at the exact same time.

Such bizarre occurrences aside, Akbar is definitely worth it, and an essential component of Mt. Vernon's restaurant scene.

Akbar Restaurant

823 North Charles St.

Phone: (410) 539-0944

Location: Mt. Vernon

Price: \$10-20

Hours: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.



Akbar Restaurant has won numerous awards over the last 12 years, and with good reason.

FEATURES



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.CYLBURNASSOCIATION.ORG](http://www.cylburnassociation.org)

Check out the beautiful grounds, museum and mansion at the Cylburn Arboretum, located near Hopkins.

Fun activities for this spring

BY JESSICA YODIN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

As February comes to an end and spring break chatter fills the air, it is almost that special time: spring. What does this mean for students at Hopkins who just want to enjoy a little fun in the sun? We all know you can't just plop down in the middle of East Baltimore and tan yourself, so where do you go?

For starters, there are many cute places on campus to enjoy Baltimore's most-cherished season. The first place, is of course "The Beach." The Beach actually provides a fun atmosphere for people to relax outside of the library — fraternities set up volleyball nets or people play catch, girls bring towels and tanning oil and within minutes, you have a beach scene minus the sand and water. Many people also enjoy the scenic president's garden as a fun way to pass time. There are a few benches scattered on the lawn that provide a nice, quiet place for talking while still staying outside.

In addition to the president's garden, there is the sculpture garden. Located outside of the Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA), it provides an ideal place to stroll and has wonderful outdoor dining. There are also various concerts that take place on the lawns of the garden.

Although we all love dear Johnny Hop, there are times when many are anxious to leave campus but don't have a car. Within walking distance, there are tons of beautiful places to hang out and enjoy the warm weather. If you're an early morning person, you may enjoy a walk to the Waverly Farmer's Market, which is on Greenmount Avenue between 33rd and 32nd Streets — just a short walk away from campus. It is open every Saturday from 7 a.m. until noon, but the fresh vegetables and selection of bread make it worth the sleep you'll have to sacrifice.

If you prefer to sleep until noon on Saturdays, you may want to plan a picnic lunch at the Sherwood Gardens, just a few blocks off of University Parkway. Commonly known as the Tulip Garden, the area features a selection of beautiful flowers. It is usually filled with people eating and relaxing. The garden features six acres of azaleas, dogwoods, magnolias, wisterias, and of course, a plethora of tulips.

If you have a car or have a friend with a car, try the Inner Harbor. Simply walking around the Harbor is nice, but if you enjoy less walking and more sitting, you may be into taking a ride on the paddleboats by Pratt Street. They offer both standard paddleboats and more ornate boats shaped like Chessie the Chesapeake Sea Monster. It could be a fun activity to partake in with that special someone, or even with a group of friends. Also in the harbor you can find numerous outdoor dining venues.

Another great place to check out is the Cylburn Arboretum, a nature preserve and city park with 207 acres of land. The land that surrounds the Cylburn Mansion includes a bird museum, nature museum, and library, and serves as Baltimore's horticultural epicenter. You can tour the mansion and museum as well as the grounds, which feature multiple gardens and miles of wooded trails. Located about three miles away from

campus, exercise-loving students can walk or jog there.

If you are the active type and sitting around amongst scenic landscapes drives you nuts, check out the Baltimore and Annapolis (B & A) bike trail. The total length of the trail covers thirteen miles between Annapolis and Glen Burnie. The southern part of the trail travels through quiet suburban neighborhoods.

For sports enthusiasts, springtime in the city also offers the promise of another season for the Baltimore Orioles. The Birds' home

opener is on April 4 against the Oakland Athletics — while tickets for opening day will be hard to get, the team frequently offers discounted ticket nights.

You can also enjoy sports here at Hopkins. There are tons of spring sports in full swing. You can work on your tan while supporting your favorite athletes and friends.

Lacrosse games are lots of fun garnering huge crowds and immense school spirit.

Spring in Baltimore is what you make of it. Don't make it another season wasted on D-level.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://HEBB.MIT.EDU/PEOPLE/JKWERFEL](http://hebb.mit.edu/people/jkwefel)

Try paddling around the Inner Harbor in boats with your favorite friends.

It shouldn't be hard to find the 'feel nice' area

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

for your carpal-tunnel to the health center.

Some girls get tangles up as they come closer to climaxing. But just remember that whatever you're feeling is normal. If it's too intense back off and try again in a few minutes, but what you're working for is intense. That's why your neighbor is so damn loud. The next step is to picture something (i.e. hot scene from a movie) or someone that actually turns you on. Most guys I know can get off to mostly anything — celebrities and girls they know alike (don't ask about it, we're all safer just not knowing).

Most girls I know might drool over Johnny Depp (Joaquin Phoenix would be a personal preference, but whatever) but most need to turn to real life experiences. For those who don't want to venture there, fantasies are just that — you're going for the feeling, not the person. So have fun with old boyfriends and experiences. It doesn't mean you want to relive the experience with the person, just that you had a great time when it happened.

As for what to do with the rest of your body, I think it goes without saying, you don't start where you're going to end up. There is more than one erogenous zone on the body. If you don't know them all by now, go on treasure hunt — you'll find them. Also, lube isn't just for heading down south — slick fingers work well massaging

other parts of the body as well.

As you move slowly south, apply the same principles for a hookup to yourself. Tease. Start on your inner thigh, work your way around and in. Once you find exactly where you want to be, don't stay there, move around and then come back — you'll thank yourself later. Even the most klutzy among us has the dexterity to change speed, stroke and rhythm to find what works for herself.

What you need to know is that it takes trial and error — if you take a while to get comfortable with what you're doing, don't let it bother you. Just take some deep breaths, relax and keep going. The world record is something like six and a half hours — and no one's looking to see if you're going to be the new record holder, so don't feel like you're in a competition.

After practice, you want work up to the advanced levels. Once you have your own bathroom, try getting a detachable head for the shower — it's more versatile than a vibrator. Also, ask a boyfriend for a hand and return the favor if you feel up to it. And for the most confident among us, if you're boyfriend can't keep up with your learning curve the best way is to lead by example; I promise he will be a quick study. After all of this, if you still want to take a trip to the Love Zone, then be my guest. This time, however, it won't be out of necessity.

This tasty casserole ought to provide some comfort

BY FRANCESCA HANSEN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In my family, true bonding requires casserole. This weekend, I returned home to my mother and her mother for whirlwind tri-generational quality time. Although it was a constant celebration, going out to eat would have been a slap in the face to two generations of French-Canadian-American cooks. I was amidst two women who had never been afraid of using cheese with abandon, of sauteing onions in butter. It's rumored that my great grandmother, Flora LeBlanc, would make doughnuts at 4 a.m. saying, "Well, I woke up, and I could feel a pit in the bottom of my stomach." Another person's cooking hardly ever satisfies the culinary needs of the Quebecois palate.

My dear grandmother, Memere, migrates every February to our home in Florida — a petite size four despite our genetic pre-inclination to saturated fat. It goes without saying that the casserole would be made for her



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.YUMYUM.COM](http://www.yumyum.com)

This recipe is great, whether you've got someone to cook with or not.

visit this year. Cuisine-wise, it's a modern marvel. Based on the pillars

of meat, tomato and cheese, the casserole is guaranteed to fill you up — and if you add in a few peas, you have nutrients and priceless comfort. This Velveeta-wonderful creation is the family's autopilot for every momentous or difficult situation. Heart broken? Got a speeding ticket? This casserole rises to the occasion. I can't tell you where my mother was for 9/11, but I can promise you that this casserole was made within 24 hours afterwards.

Facing a chilly 70 degrees this Valentine's Day weekend in Florida, we indulged and turned on the oven to reheat some casserole with a fresh layer of cheese. It was divinity in an oven-proof dish. Officially naming the heretofore unnamed masterpiece has been difficult, but I remember a hundred conversations I've had with my mother, that all went something like: "Let's make, you know, the... comfort casserole."

And so, I present the LeBlanc Comfort Casserole. Like a great wine, or a great fruitcake, it only improves with time. It takes at least a few batches to perfect the ratio of cheese, tomato and meat, but keep on trying. Hopefully, your efforts will last a generation.

LEBLANC COMFORT CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 lb pasta | 1 large can pureed tomatoes |
| 1 lb lean ground beef | 1 large onion |
| 1 clove garlic | Velveeta (lots) |
| 2 C Milk and 3 T flour for a sauce | parsley, basil |
| 1 lb mushrooms | |

Preparation:

Cook pasta, set aside.
Saute the ground beef with onion and garlic, season with basil, salt and pepper.
Set aside.
Make a white sauce with the milk and flour, stir until thick, then stir in about half a box of Velveeta, sliced, until the sauce is nice and smooth.
Saute the mushrooms in butter, season with parsley salt and pepper.
Stir the pureed tomatoes into the meat, adjust seasoning.
Now, combine everything. Pour into a large casserole. Cover with more sliced Velveeta.
Bake at 375 until bubbly.

Note: If fresh mushrooms are not available, substitute cream of mushroom soup with the Velveeta mixture. A few peas stirred in add some nice color.

SENIORS:

2005 Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts

The deadline for the Sudler Prize, which carries a \$1,500 cash award, is **FRIDAY, MARCH 4.**

The Sudler Prize is awarded to recognize excellence in performance, execution, or composition in one of the arts. These include, but are not limited to, music, theater, dance, fiction, poetry, painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, film, or videotape.

To be eligible, you must be a senior in good academic standing and with sufficient credits to receive a degree at commencement in May 2005.

To compete for the Sudler Prize, submit 10 copies of the following to Julia Morgan, Sudler Prize Committee Coordinator, President's Office, 242 Garland Hall: (1) a completed application form; (2) a letter of recommendation from a Hopkins faculty member familiar with your work; (3) at least two examples of work done while you were a Hopkins student.

Additional information and the application form can be found at <http://getintothearts.jhu.edu/sudlerprize/index.html>. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Morgan at (410)516-4013 or jmorgan@jhu.edu.

Adult Children of Alcoholics

Healthy men and women ages **18 - 30** are needed for a Johns Hopkins study.

Study involves having blood drawn and urine collected.

Earn up to \$865 for completion of screening interview, 5 brief outpatient visits and 1 overnight stay.

For more information, call **(410)-502-5433.**

Primary Investigator: Gary Wand, M.D.
RPN: 99-12-07-03

 **JOHNS HOPKINS**
M E D I C I N E

FEATURES



Members of the Homewood community enjoy sampling international cuisine at a luncheon sponsored by the Whiting School of Engineering.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

WSE promotes diversity with luncheon

BY MARY BANKS

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The cold and the wind did not deter hungry students from lining up outside the Glass Pavilion, eager for a chance to sample a variety of free international food.

The aroma of international cuisine filled the air at the Whiting School of Engineering (WSE)'s first ever welcome-back-to-second-semester multicultural lunch, held last Friday.

WSE Events Committee and Diversity Council members even donned ethnic attire for the luncheon.

Inside the Glass Pavilion stood small replicas of the Statue of Liberty and the Eiffel Tower. Both miniature monuments were donations from a

theatrical company, explained Nancy Worley, who coordinated the international exhibitions.

At the center of the room is an African exhibition, which features a multicolored bridal necklace and a walking stick from Kenya, alongside a Ghanaian mask.

Each side of the room was lined with tables, which offered a diverse menu of international cuisine: collard greens smoked with turkey, sautéed Chinese broccoli, tripes negros con jamon (black beans, onions, tomatoes, and cilantro).

For dessert, baklava was served. The traditional Mediterranean and Middle Eastern dessert consists of phyllo, butter, walnut, sugar, cinnamon and honey lemon juice.

"This is a terrific event," WSE

Dean Dr. Nicholas Jones announced as students enjoyed their food.

After his speech, which emphasized the importance of diversity, Jones encouraged the crowd to try different food and to enjoy themselves. And that's what people did—enjoyed themselves.

"It's a nice way to meet friends," said second-year graduate student Saurav Panda. Panda attended the event "because

it's multicultural" and because he wanted to see one of his friends perform in Mishtique, an Indian dance group.

Though most people were dressed casually, some chose to wear clothing representative of their culture. Freshman Lucky Pellakura wore a traditional Northern Indian dress. "My grandmother

gave it to me," said Pellakura, who came to the event for the food and to see what kinds of costumes other attendees would wear.

Students were also able to enjoy culturally-themed performances. Ketzev, a Jewish a cappella group, performed two songs.

Graduate student Deepali Tukaye, who is a member of Mishtique, said that their group was invited to perform by event organizers.

"It is our way to bring our Indian culture here," said Tukaye. "It was fun practicing," she said.

"It was excellent — this is the first of its kind," said Kuri Gecau, an events staff member. "Everyone seems to enjoy themselves," he said.

Jeffrey Jarosz, who sits on WSE's Events Committee and Diversity Council and is also the chapter advisor of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), helped to come up with the idea of a multicultural welcome-back lunch.

In an e-mail announcing the event, Jarosz wrote, "Engineering is global; our workplaces are diverse, multicultural environments that demand tolerance and teamwork; and good engineers must have multicultural competence."

"I thought about having a diversity day for the School of Engineering. For the second semester, we wanted to have a welcome-back event," he said.

The two ideas merged, and the first "Welcome Back to Spring-Semester Multicultural Potluck" was created.

Jones said that he thought the event was a success. He believes that events such as the multicultural lunch are important because they bring a sense of community.

Jones said that the School of Engineering had been planning the lunch for a while, and that that this event had even more significance because of recent hardships that Hopkins students have had to endure. "It has been a rough month," he said.

Engineering is global
... and good
engineers must have
multicultural
competence.

— JEFFREY JAROSZ, WSE
DIVERSITY COUNCIL

NY fashion week reveals fall styles

Last week was marked by champagne binges, gorgeous models, celebrities, socialites, and, most importantly, tantalizing new fashions, which could only mean one thing: New York Fashion Week.

An annual rite in the fashion world, designers like Ralph Lauren, Luca Luca, Donna Karan, Vera Wang and more debuted their fall 2005 collections in America's fashion hub, New York City.

Though spring has yet to rear its head, the realm of fashion stays true to its always-ahead-of-the-curve prerogative, providing clotheshorses a glimpse at fall's trends and stylish creations.

While 2004's fashion week inundated viewers with a deluge of ladylike pant suits and glitzy garments, with designers from Marc Jacobs to Versace rendering their versions of the classic-chic look, the 2005 shows steered clear from this played-out style.

In fact, Lazaro Hernandez from design team and über-trendy label Proenza Schouler expressed his sentiments to *The New York Times* about last year's obsession with the "ladies who lunch" look, threatening, "If I see one more pencil skirt ..."

Fellow designers seem to agree — collections for the fall were heavy on grandiose patterns, making for a line of clothing both reminiscent of styles from old-world royal kingdoms and modern-mod-meets-futuristic-fantasy.

Oscar De La Renta, Carlos Miele, Douglas Hannant and Monique Lhuillier opted for the old-world look, creating skirts and gowns laden with gold brocade patterns, tulle and ultra-luxurious fabric designs. Much of these and similar designers' collections exuded Cinderella elegance, suggesting a return to the age of dignified courtship and horse-drawn carriages.

Another set of designers, however, showed a tendency for modernity and futuristic elegance, with Marc Jacobs, Alice Roi, and Proenza Schouler flooding the runways with bubble skirts, ruffles, boxy skirts and dresses, and mod-inspired boots.

In addition to ruffles and oversized, bulky skirts and jackets, one prevalent trend for fall shared by nearly all designers who debuted last week was a Russian-inspired theme.

Though designers often draw inspiration from various regions of the world, this new "Russian elegance" seems strikingly innovative, if not somewhat odd, as this land best known for caviar and communism often evokes austere images in the minds of Americans. Nonetheless, the deep reds, heavy fabrics, and luxurious patterns that characterize Russian-inspired clothing are perfect for the chilly fall months.

Fur also made its way back onto the runway for fall, asserting its sustainability in the realm of fashion,

where favored materials of one season are often blacklisted the next. Designers from Michael Kors to Chaiken to Bill Blass sent countless models marching the runways with fox stoles and mink shrugs, paying homage to this age-old favored material.

While a number of trends characterized the fall collections, many felt 2005 Fashion

Week to be void of any definitive characterization.

"The fall fashions seemed fairly directionless this year," commented Hopkins sophomore Leah Bourne, who sat front-row at Ralph Lauren, Peter Som and Chado Ralph Rucci. "Besides a Russian-inspired look, there weren't many overarching characteristics to the shows."

Similar sentiments were expressed by show attendee and trend reporter David Wolfe, who stated in *The New York Times*, "There is no fashion mainstream anymore. Instead of mainstream there are a thousand little brands all going at different speeds."

While this paradigm shift is new for the fashion world, as designers often piggyback off the looks of industry leaders, the change is far from discouraging, as more individualized, varied designs mean more choices for consumers.

And while it wouldn't be fashion week without a few tiffs and controversies — Baby Phat overbooked its show, turning away hundreds of invited show-goers; Marc Jacobs began his show two hours late, sending *Vogue* editor Anna Wintour into a state of fury; and J-Lo made a belly flop onto the runway scene with her collection of tacky fashions — New York's week of glamour and garments tickled the fashion set, whetting appetites for fall 2005.



CARTER CRAMER
HOP COUTURE

HOT AT HOPKINS

You're hot and you know it. So are all your friends that we've been checking out in the AC. So why don't you just nominate all those hot people? E-mail: HotatHopkins@jhunewsletter.com



Name: Wonnie Rhieu
Year: Junior
Major: Behavioral Biology
Hometown: Phoenix, Ariz.

Wonnie Rhieu is one hottie. Hailing from Arizona, this woman claims that her favorite clothing item is a miniskirt and thinks people describe her personality as bubbly. Spunky and sexy — it does exist at Hopkins.

Her biggest pet peeve is fingerprints on pictures, so next time you're checking out Wonnie's roll of film, keep your paws to yourself, or at least don't leave a mark.

This gal does not like "sappy/romantic" guys, so be sure to get your cheesiness in check, she prefers "sweet talkers." If you don't have a way with words, but a large imagination, Wonnie enjoys any

date that "requires getting dressed up and ready for like four hours."

Her ideal man possesses "charisma and charm," so turn on the charm factor or get turned down. Her weirdest habit includes collecting magazines that feature Paris Hilton. If you want to party with Wonnie make sure to bring *Simple Life* DVDs and a night vision camera.

If you don't want to party Paris style, buy something pink for Wonnie — it's her favorite color. Good luck, boys.



Name: Kenneth N. Kanara
Year: Junior
Major: Economics
Hometown: Kennett Square, Pa.

Before any ladies start fantasizing over this hazel-eyed, dirty blond-

haired, self-described "hard worker," perhaps we should mention that he's taken. Ken had an easy time describing his ideal date, because he said that he's already been on it, with his current beau.

"I took my girlfriend to a driving range on our second date and taught her how to hit golf balls," he said. "After that, we went to dinner, then rented a movie and relaxed."

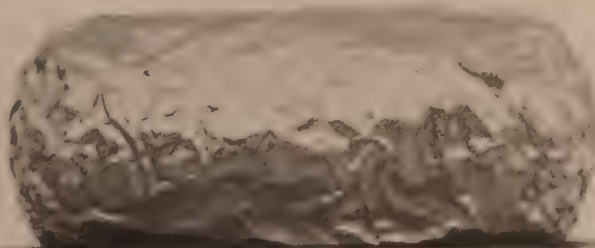
Fortunately, his special lady friend fits the description of his perfect woman. Ken likes a girl with a great body, especially one who loves eating steaks and hamburgers. "My girlfriend loves rare red meat," he said. Apparently, Ken's ideal company for the evening is one part girl, one part grill.

For Ken, a girl has to go to the gym as frequently as he does — and that might be tough, considering his favorite item of clothing is his pair of running shoes.

Ken enjoys a good night out — "If I deserve it," he said — but if he has to stay in, you just might find him dancing to Bob Seger in his underwear. He said that he has an odd habit of watching *Risky Business* way too much.

But the most important thing to know about Ken is that for him, brawn will always prevail over brains. His biggest pet peeve is "the people that go here and think being smart makes them cool."

For Ken, it's all about "how much you can lift and how fast you can run."



WATCH WHAT YOU'RE
ABOUT TO EAT.



RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES.
INNER HARBOR BALTIMORE @ THE POWER PLANT

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Bridge is gettin' their groove on



Baltimore natives and friends Cris Jacobs (left) and Kenny Liner who started the band, rehearse in the studio.

BY MARISSA LOWMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Local band The Bridge fuses elements of jazz, funk, bluegrass, rock, and electronica into a truly eclectic sound using a unique combination of instruments.

The quintet was formed a little over three years ago by Baltimorean Chris Jacobs, who plays guitar and sings, along with his friend Kenny Liner, who plays mandolin and does vocal percussion. Both men, who have known each other for 15 years and went to summer camp together, were living in Baltimore and had just started becoming heavily involved in music.

"We used to play acoustic, just the two of us, for fun with no plan of making a band. Then we got a gig and a bunch of our friends came out and we had a band before we even knew it," says Jacobs. A little over 10 years ago, when he was 16, he began learning to play the guitar. "I sacrificed some girlfriends and some other things for it, but I think it was worth it," says Jacobs.

His original role models in music included Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, and the Grateful Dead, artists whose power to move people through their live music inspired him. Now, his tastes run the gamut and he appreciates all kinds of music, from Miles Davis to Muddy Waters.

The crowds that attend the band's concerts are diverse, with people ranging in age from 18 to 50, perhaps due to the melange of the music's style, which has been clas-

sified as a jam band, but which cannot be boxed into any specific genre. One thing that makes The Bridge unique from most jam bands is their focus on quality song writing. They try to provide both an exciting live show and songs with substance so that people will be able to take something meaningful from the show.

"For us, it's not just forty-five minutes of improv jams," said Jacobs, although they do often devote sections of rehearsed songs to improvisation. "We try not to play songs that have structure. We like to let songs breathe and adapt to the way we're feeling on a particular night." For Jacobs, everything related to his band seems to be more about fusion than about definition. "The concept of The Bridge is to bring together all different styles of music into our own little genre. We don't really know how to classify it and we don't choose to," says Jacobs. "We enjoy parts of all different styles and people feed off of that. There's something for everyone in our music."

He likes the fact that the name of the band contains several layers of meaning. "Music is really a bridge from one place to another, taking someone from everyday existence to that other place we like to go sometimes. It's a common ground for everyone to feed off of and enjoy."

Jacobs grew up in the suburbs of Baltimore, where he experienced a mixture of city and country life, exposing him to Southern folk, bluegrass, and blues music, as well as to Northern jazz. "By osmosis, all of

those elements seem to seep into your subconscious. It's the result of all the influences in our environment growing up, all the different types of music and culture we were able to absorb," said Jacobs. By the end of the year, they will have performed nearly 250 shows, including local appearances at the Recher Theater and The Ottobar.



Kenny Liner of The Bridge will perform in the Great Hall this Saturday.

The band just recently decided to try to make a living playing music. Before that, they did odd jobs like dog-walking and working at a textile warehouse three days a week, while performing on weekends. They have already produced two CDs, the most recent of which, *Cross Street Market*, came out in March of last year. They are currently producing a DVD of a live show they performed on Thanksgiving at The Funk Box in Federal Hill.

Jacobs' most memorable performance was this past New Year's Eve at the same locale, where, in addition to playing for a sold-out house, he got to jam throughout the night with The Meters, the legendary New Orleans funk band who are, according to Jacobs, "the quintessential innovators of funk."

The Bridge will be doing its third residency at the Funk Box starting next Wednesday night, which involves playing there once a week for 4-8 weeks in a row. "It's great for us because we end up with a lot of new material. It helps us stretch out and expand what we do," said Jacobs.

The band, whose music is very danceable, played at Hopkins for Spring Fair a couple years ago. Jacobs is particularly excited about playing here again because of the new lineup, which includes several members who he's only known for a few months, and because he believes they've improved musically since then. The members of The Bridge have developed a brotherly vibe from touring year round up and down the coast, as far north as Maine and as far south as Georgia.

Jacobs' favorite audience is college students because they're ready to party. He enjoys feeding off of their energy and partying himself. "They're in the mind set where they're looking for the next best thing to latch on to. I like that they're open-minded about new experiences and new things."

The Bridge performs Saturday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall, with opener The Bravery.



Hopkins grad Dan Ahdoot chose comedy over the medical profession.

Comedian Dan Ahdoot is a hoot

BY GARRETT LEONARD
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

When Hopkins alumnus Dan Ahdoot gives talks, he does not discuss cutting-edge scientific research, summarize psychological brain studies, or analyze literature. Bizzare as it might sound, Ahdoot started out as a premed and ended up as a stand-up comic. And if he is as funny on stage as he was in conversation, you won't be able to help laughing when he returns to Hopkins for a one-of-a-kind comedy event.

Ahdoot's path from aspiring doctor to successful big-time comedian began with his involvement in the Hopkins improv group Buttered Niblets. Accepted as a freshman, Ahdoot worked with the group for his entire four-year college experience. Ironically, the Buttered Niblets' continual rejection of Dan's "edgy" skits persuaded him in his senior year to independently perform at the Winchester Comedy in Baltimore. Ahdoot began to see comedy in his professional future with just his first taste of stand-up.

The one man at Hopkins truly responsible for finally pushing Ahdoot into comedy was Dan's own friend and fellow Hopkins premed Kartikya Ahuja (class of 2000). Ahuja, like Ahdoot, was suffocated by school work and "a chronic lack of women." Fearing a bleak and lonely future, and seeing the potential for women in a stand-up career, Ahdoot made a career choice that was an immense, if understandable, disappointment of his family.

Ahdoot spent the majority of his four years at Hopkins practicing and performing with the Buttered Niblets and "studying for orgo." He tried to pick up girls by learning how to salsa dance. "I only met girls who wouldn't sleep with me," he says, but Ahdoot says the real reason he was so unsuccessful has to do with an early freshman popularity stunt on E Level. During a karaoke party, Dan thought it would be cool to sing "Rainbow Connection" in a Kermit voice. Unfortunately, Dan was laughed off the stage

and it took a long time for people to forget his embarrassing act. Fortunately for Dan, nowadays, people laugh at his jokes rather than at him when he is on stage.

Dan attended acting classes with the Upright Citizens Brigade and Second City New York, both comedy troupes located in Manhattan. He worked doing improv and with five other people he started the comedy group, Gunshow. Despite the relative success of Gunshow, Dan was forced to maintain his day job as an ad-sales researcher at Comedy Central. Although he refers to the job as "the bane of his existence," he was helped by another Hopkins alum and Comedy Central higher-up, David Epstein.

At a Comedy Central party, Ahdoot met a writer from the show *Crank Yankers*, who was looking for original concepts. He asked Ahdoot to e-mail him five concepts the next day, but the former premed's Hopkins-bred work-ethic produced seventy ideas. The writers at *Crank Yankers* were so impressed they hired him as a free-lance writer. Ahdoot's involvement in the show lasted two years before he decided to take a year off.

Soon after, Ahdoot left Gunshow to pursue his stand-up career. He opened for famous comedians like Lewis Black, Jay Mohr and Dave Chappelle. Lewis Black is credited with giving Dan the advice to be bitter with college students. Presently, Ahdoot is doing a solo tour all over the country.

Ahdoot says he is very happy he went to Hopkins and he credits the school with giving him an amazing work ethic that he takes to his job. He admits to being "a little dorky" and saving new comedic routine ideas on his Palm Pilot in preparation for working them into usable material later that night.

Hopkins also gave him the ability to survive on three to four hours of sleep, a skill which allowed him to survive during his early years when he had a day job, did stand-up at night and partied into the morning. One of the few aspects of his Hopkins experience that Dan regrets is not getting a bid to join Pike during his freshman year. For the rest of his educational years, Dan plotted to find a way to get back at Pike.

Ahdoot's favorite jokes are race jokes, yet the jokes he can always rely on to get the audience to laugh are about his father. He attributes this to the fact that he has an immigrant dad with a "survivalist mentality" — according to his son, he only cares about getting food on the table and ensuring that nobody in the family is sick. He also admits his dad's lack of knowledge of American culture is an endless source of comedy.

When asked where he sees himself in ten years, Dan jokes, "Serving chicken fingers at Levering." In reality, Dan sees himself doing more acting and hosting on television. He is currently working with MTV on a project but is unable to offer any details.

Dan ended the conversation with a piece of advice for any Hopkins students who are aspiring to become comedians, "Become a BME, because then comedy will seem like a piece of cake."

Dan Ahdoot performs stand-up comedy at Shriver Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 23. The show starts at 8 p.m., with comedian Adam Ruben opening.



WILLIAM PARSCHALK/NEWS-LETTER

THE GREAT PEABODY EXPERIMENT

Not all great composers are dead. Not all of them make boring music to fall asleep to. Some of them even go to this school.

Those crazy composition students down at Peabody — they've got such good hearts. This coming Saturday a handful of them will participate in 24HC, a program that will raise money for East Asian tsunami victims.

Here's how it works: the composers will first draw numbers from a hat. The number they draw will determine the number of musicians in the ensemble for which they will write. Then they will each draw the appropriate number of names of performers from a different hat, and that will determine the instruments in the ensemble.

Then the fun part starts.

The lucky composers will be quarantined in the "composition area," where they will sit and write, with any stimulant resources necessary (coffee et cetera). If they need a break, they are permitted to leave their work for no more than a half hour. Any score left idle for more than a half hour will be considered complete, and it will be performed without additional editing. All compositions will be completed within 12 hours, after which all pieces will be rehearsed and performed at an 8 p.m. concert on Sunday night.

The whole setup of 24HC sounds familiar. One reason is that it is based on the traditional 24-hour movie concept, a venture that Hopkins hosted last fall. Also, it sounds suspiciously like improvisation, which is not surprising because the artistic director of this marathon is Samuel Bert, who is active in the Baltimore experimental music community and the improv jam sessions at the Red Room of Normal's Books and Records. In an interview last fall with the *News-Letter*, Bert described improvisational "free" music as "like composing in real time." This project seems like a good test for his directorial ear.

The 24HC project concert will occur on Sunday, Jan. 20 at 8 p.m. in the Peabody Conservatory's Cohen-Davidson Family Theater. Donations for Tsunami Relief at the event.

—Robbie Whelan

Flying Daggers aims true, hits the target

BY REGINALD NOVAK
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Hopefully Zhang Yimou isn't becoming a one-trick pony. I was quite fond of the Chinese art-house director's first foray into martial arts filmmaking, 2002's *Hero*, but his latest offering *House of Flying Daggers* was slightly disappointing. That's not to say it isn't a good film. On the contrary, every filmmaking aspect of it is excellent: the cinematography, the choreography and the acting are all breathtaking. The only problem is that the film breaks very little ground when compared to *Hero*. Not a sin, by any means, but perhaps indicative of a favorite art-house director settling into a commercially-comfortable groove.

All of the successful ingredients of *Hero* and its very similar predecessor, Ang Lee's *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, are present in *Daggers*: powerful drama, artsy cinematography, and frequent, elaborate fighting in an old Chinese setting. The story concerns a

blind dancer named Mei (Zhang Ziyi), who is secretly a member of a mysterious sect of political rebels called "The Flying Daggers." Following a display of implausibly perfect hand-ear coordination, she attempts to assassinate a local captain, Leo (Andy Lau). She is quickly arrested. Leo and his partner, Jin (Takeshi Kaneshiro), hope to become heroes. They hatch a plot to locate and infiltrate the rebel clan by gaining Mei's trust. Jin poses as a charming drifter named Wind and breaks Mei out of jail. The duo rushes through the forest, attempting to escape the soldiers that have been sent after them. Leo meets up with Jin, secretly on the way to check on his status, and warns Jin not to fall in love with Mei. Jin brushes him off. But in the course of constantly defending Mei from the soldiers, of course he grows to love her. To reveal any more would ruin the story, since double-crossings and plot twists are abundant. So are

fight. Big fights that are more like intricate dances. Fights using swords and daggers. Fights using arrows. Fights using freshly-cut stalks of bam-



Takeshi Kaneshiro is a hero in Zhang Yimou's *Crouching Tiger-type* film.

boo. As you know, earthly laws of physics do not apply to Chinese martial arts heroes and villains, particularly those who lived 1,100 years ago. "Daggers" is no exception to this rule. Its fight choreography is remarkable, as would be expected, and is aided nicely by plenty of computers and wirework. Occasionally things get out of control, namely in the aforementioned bamboo battle, but all in all it's quite exciting and usually not too out-of-place and ridiculous.

All of Yimou's films are marked by striking cinematography, and "Daggers" is no exception. The sights of the movie are museum-worthy. From scene to scene, the colors are always in harmony with each other. Things simply matched back in the Tang Dynasty. The acting is excep-

tional. Even when the plot suddenly juices up its melodrama when approaching the film's finale, the actors manage to pull it off with grace and subtlety. Chinese superstar/heartthrob/supermodel Andy Lau is particularly good as Leo.

Obviously all of these positive elements add up to a good movie, but they don't quite amount to an amazing film. Following *Crouching Tiger*, Ang Lee went on to direct *Hulk*, so Yimou certainly followed up his own wuxia opus, *Hero*, with a better movie. Still let's hope that he learns some new tricks before his next project. Let's also hope that a movie called "Ant-Man" is not in development, and that if it is, its producers don't have their eyes on Zhang Yimou.

New Vibrations

Local Edition

Contrary to popular belief, pop music is not dead in Baltimore. We do have talented artists, quality labels, and supportive clubs to promote our local talents. This week, and periodically from now on, the New Vibrations review section will feature CDs by local artists in an effort to expose Hopkins kids to music that is being made in the big, green, luscious, rat-infested backyard that is Baltimore.

The Anomoanon — Joji Temporary Residence Jan. 2005

It's hard to get a handle on *Joji*, 2004's second full-length album from Baltimore band The Anomoanon. Where does it fit in the never-ending search for smaller, more platonic musical sub-genres? Whiskey still folk? Log cabin rock?

From the voodoo-inspired album art to the dark, brooding vocals on the excellent opener "Down and Brown," *Joji* seems slightly uncomfortable with the psychedelic folk genre in which it resides. Throughout the album, the tension between stripped-down folk elements, ethereal synthesizers and soaring guitars slowly builds while Ned Oldham half-sings and half-mumbles about love and loss. Just when the music starts to fall apart, as on "Leap Alone," a surging guitar or a string of lyrics pulls everything back together. It is at these moments, when music trapped beneath a musky layer of decay bursts into light, that *Joni* is at its



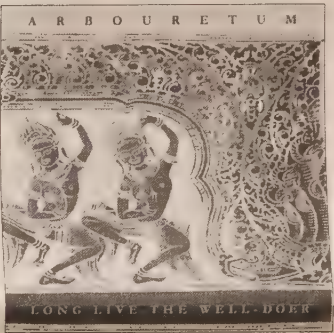
best. Sadly, a few longer tracks meander dangerously close to jam band territory, although the amazing musician-ship of the band allows for some indulgence—even the instrumental track "After Than Before." Likewise, while the lyrics occasionally stumble, when Oldham pulls off the line "Your socks and shoes are filled with sand / your heart is beating for another man" right before a harmonica kicks in, you have to sit back and smile. *Joji* is the sound of a band comfortably tackling disparate elements to create an album that defies easy categorization. Psychedelic folk? This is solid music—nothing more, nothing less. —Jed Borod

Abouretum — Long Live the Well-Doer Box Tree Jan. 2004

The cover of local two-piece Arbouretum's debut album, *Long Live the Well-Doer*, shows a blue and gray facsimile of what looks to be an Indian batik tapestry, with a head-dressed Shiva dancing beneath a weaving canopy of detailed patterns that rise like smoke above the goddess's head. The opening track, "Sands and Sands" seems to fit this image. It is a clattering percussion, meditative guitar chords and little chirping guitar riffs that establishes the psychedelic backdrop for the rest of the record.

On "Jonas Got a Tooth," the band pounds gloomily through a slow stoner rock song, with frontman Dave Heumann sounding more than a little bit like Michael Stipe. Each tune is a new descent in tone—like a bad high getting progressively worse—to the point that when Heumann sings the line, "Everyone says that the war will soon be over," to start the song "People Flock Not to the Good," you just know that he's not really convinced, and that hopeful words are meant only to highlight his despair.

Arbouretum's instrumental tracks are engrossing and interesting in the same way the Kronos Quartet's headier work is—they focus your attention on the build-up of tension and on the nuances and variations in the sounds that are coming at you. "Wisteria" builds on a spindly, repeated guitar lick that stays in the



neighborhood of one chord for about three and a half minutes, but the track is still entrancing.

"I Am a Somnambulist" has dreamy, messy feel, complete with echoey drum fills and gong-like symbols, that I didn't quite get until I looked up the word "somnambulist" and found that it means "sleep-walker." At that point it became clear that part of Arbouretum's goal is to merge the form and function of their music, but not so much that it is no longer open to interpretation. They are not true symbolists: each track on the album comes with an accompanying idea, but the sonic scope of the music is not limited by that idea.

Traditionalist that I am though, I find myself liking this album in no small part because several of the songs are just well-put and memorable. Arbouretum achieves far more accessibility than their psychedelic colleagues Bardo Pond, but they don't fall short in the songwriting department the way Brian Jonestown Massacre does. This record is like an audible study-drug—it fine-tunes your sensors, focuses your attention, and heightens your perceptions. Use with caution. —Robbie Whelan

The Barnburners — Shot Down Atomic Twang Nov. 2004

Atomic Twang, the fledgling record label run by Benn Ray, owner of Atomic Books in Hampden, has opened its presses with records by several local alt-country bands, and the Barn Burners may be the best of them. Their debut, *Shot Down*, is a set of eleven straight-ahead barroom country numbers that range nicely from brilliant, jukebox, walking bass break-up tunes ("Cheatin' to Lose") to raucous stompers ("Said the 7 to the 11").

Singer Bob Kannenberg sings with the kind of twang that can only come from a guy who doesn't actually speak with any twang, because he's not from the South, but he makes up for it with his tales of urban cowboy-dom, which include visits to the scrap yard and girl who knock him out in "Yesterday's Clothes".

His songs also capture just the right amount of wounded pride alpha-male heartbreak ("When I Had Your Love") to make them truly country. In "Throwin' Your Life Away"—a lament to an ex-girlfriend on the eve of her wedding—he tells the bride-to-be that



she'll regret her decision, that she'll cry, and that her mascara will run, "a stain you just can't remove" on her white wedding dress. He also has a good dose of spurned-lover bitterness. "I guess my invitation got lost in the mail," he says. "They screen all the letters in the County Jail."

For most of the songs, drummer Bonanza T. Jones tunes his snare drum high enough that it sounds like a punk-rock kit, but the band never really gets hard enough to be playing in the same league as Uncle Tupelo or the Reverend Horton Heat, both bands that have clearly influenced them. They could also stand to throw in a bit more vocal harmony, or at least to produce it well enough to make it audible. Otherwise, they have their basics down, and they've got the right sneer. —Robbie Whelan

Scorsese finds gripping new genre with *Aviator*



Leonardo DiCaprio makes the crazy aviator Howard Hughes look classy.

BY PATRICK KENNEDY
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

If Martin Scorsese was looking for a dynamic, eerie, and intriguing film premise, he has certainly found one. Few combinations could be more fascinating, or explosive, than the concoction of vintage Hollywood culture and ripping psychosis driving his new picture, Howard Hughes' biopic, *The Aviator*. Of this year's biographies, this is the most ambitious, a second experiment in

the visual fluency and epic scope that defined *Gangs of New York*. Plane explosions, cameos, legal battles and corrupt politics—it's all there. And yet, there's a catch.

Apparently, the compelling ideas behind Scorsese's newest vehicle have a nasty habit of backfiring from time to time. *The Aviator* may hold considerable merits—among them coherent plotting, complemented by expansive cinematography and set design. On top of that, Leonardo DiCaprio, fresh from two admirable

performances in *Gangs of New York* and *Catch Me If You Can*, does a pitch-perfect rendition of Hughes, a confirmed loony and playboy multi-millionaire. But therein lies the problem. As Chris Rock told *The New York Times*, *The Aviator* is ultimately "about a rich guy who gets things done" and "overcame obstacles, like how much money to spend."

Like no other director, Scorsese knows how to mine the savagery of mundane life for almost-poetic insight. *Mean Streets* and *The Color of Money*, for instance, lent personal significance to immense incongruity. However, Scorsese pretty much reverses course in *The Aviator*. In this finely-ordered scale model of film's golden age, we never gain a deep sense of why Hughes mattered, whom he impacted, or whether his accomplishments were really heart-felt or inspired.

The movie opens with a Gothic, unsettling clip of Hughes' mother bathing her adolescent son by hand. But then, *The Aviator* shifts into a driving account of the young Howard and his often astounding accomplishments. We watch Hughes set out to make a series of high-budget films, starting with the aviation spectacle *Hell's Angels*. Soon, Hughes penetrates the upper circles of Hollywood's elite, his reputation built on features like *Scarface* and the *Outlaw*. With girls including Jean Harlow (Gwen Stefani), Kate Hepburn (Kate

Blanchett), and Ava Gardner (Kate Beckinsdale) following him down the red carpet and into bed, Hughes is a man at the top of his game.

Then things start to go wrong. For the first half of *The Aviator*, Hughes is high on success, aside from something of a boob fetish and a hand washing obsession. Yet when he tires of directing blockbusters and setting airplane speed records, Hughes tries to establish himself in the commercial airline industry. His designs crashing, and a duo of jealous bureaucrats (Alec Baldwin and Alan Alda) dismembering his enterprise, Scorsese's fortunate son slips into the version of himself modern audiences recognize—crazy hair and long fingernails included.

It's funny how that haunting first scene may be the movie's most significant. Although Hughes ranted about cleanliness and sought strength in a succession of mother figures, textbook psychology is beside the point. No matter how rich or renowned he became, Hughes is depicted in *The Aviator* as a callow boy fighting to win big in a man's world. DiCaprio, who doesn't look like an adult and probably never will, makes Hughes vulnerable and pitiful in his insanity, but always unapologetic.

Most other characters are scenery, but a few, like Blanchett's Kate Hepburn, sporadically come alive. Her performance, sometimes a highfalutin' mimic of Hepburn's screen persona, sometimes your standard Hollywood liberal, is nonetheless her most spirited and energetic turn yet. There are even a few moments where she exhibits the kind of genuine niceness and sympathy that is all but alien to Hughes. More notably, Alda and Baldwin, as a crooked senator and his airline executive buddy respectively, scheme like Shakespearean villains in roles versatile enough to make up for any bias against them.

Still, DiCaprio, rebellious and single-minded, strives to dominate every scene. He has the craziness bit mastered, from the blank stare to the repetitious destructive habits, that he can indulge in a few unnecessary acting pleasures, like tender womanizing and fight-the-machine-style rhetoric near the end. This is his movie—far more, unfortunately, than Scorsese's.

The Aviator almost seems like a conscious departure from the material Scorsese enjoys, primarily urban violence and quirky alternate history. Without that passion, we are only rarely treated to the stylized power that Scorsese regularly provides, despite a handle on mental chaos half-way reminiscent of *Taxi Driver*'s. Hughes emerges in *The Aviator* not as a hero, but a curiosity, a warped character locked into a glamorous setting. Yet he's a curiosity that warrants our attention.

Healthy People Needed

For a study of the brain
sponsored by the National Institutes of Health
and coordinated by Johns Hopkins

18 to 60 year old adults
will participate in a health assessment, hormone
stimulation procedure and/or brain scan. We take pictures
of the brain using a safe, painless, medical scanner.

Different studies available.

Payment for study participation.

Call (410) 502-5433 for more information.

PI: J. James Frost, M.D., Ph.D./RPN 00-02-03-05
PI: Dean Wong, M.D., Ph.D./RPN 99-12-07-04
PI: Gary S. Wand, M.D./RPN 99-12-07-03



JOHNS HOPKINS
M E D I C I N E

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Hotel Rwanda: manuevering out of genocide



Antonio Lyons, Sophie Okonedo and Don Cheadle star in Terry George's righteous tale of Rwandan genocide.

BY PATRICK KENNEDY
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Usually, I like a little moral ambiguity in a movie. But watching *Hotel Rwanda*, filmmaker Terry George's startling account of the jingoist violence that claimed 800,000 Rwandan lives in just 100 days, you feel as though you are staring into the face of human evil. That an outwardly normal society could engage in such a wanton massacre, while governments, citizens, and the media in the West turned a blind eye, should invite only disbelief.

It is tempting to compare the Rwandan chaos, involving the persecution of the region's ethnic Tutsi minority by the dominant Hutu population, to the skirmish warfare that now plagues Sudan. Still, whether George intended such a parallel is beside the point. Most importantly, *Hotel Rwanda* is a forthright picture of the humble heroism that is often the final salvation of a society gone berserk. George's piece may communicate too urgently a righteousness and concern that, given the nature of its subject, are easily understood. But on so many levels, it is an unques-

tionable success. Plenty of the credit belongs to George, who, as both director and screenwriter, concretely presents the horror of genocide on the least sensationalized terms possible. *Hotel Rwanda* tells the true story of a prospering Hutu, Paul Rusesabagina (inspiring depicted by Don Cheadle), who hides several hundred Tutsi refugees in the hotel he manages, the Mille Collines. Were it not for the cloud of apprehension that hangs over the whole movie, his tale would be not only remarkable, but uplifting. Fortunately, the overwhelming

believability that Cheadle brings to his role saves *Hotel Rwanda* from succumbing to melodrama. In playing Rusesabagina, he finally has a showcase for the natural elegance that, in his smaller parts, frequently goes unnoticed. As Hutu hard-liners take over the radio waves and rumors of uprising run high in Kigali, Rwanda's capital, Rusesabagina tries to hang on to the life he knows for as long as he can. Amiable and generous, his career is built on favors and connections. But he eventually discovers that people's worst impulses are not alleviated by reason, or, for that matter, bribes.

When his neighborhood is raided, Rusesabagina, his Tutsi wife Tatiana (played with a touching independence by Sophie Okonedo), and their neighbors flee to the Mille Collines, which is soon overrun by an array of refugees. As the days pass, his hopes of deliverance, from more U.N. protection to Western publicity, are dashed one by one. With lawlessness reigning outside, it takes all his pragmatism — distributing alcohol to the Interhamwe militia, distorting hotel records, and bargaining with head Hutus — to keep his occupants safe.

Needless to say, *Hotel Rwanda* calls to mind that other monumental statement on ethnic cleansing, *Schindler's List*. Though Spielberg's opus may be cinematically superior, there is something unreal about its alien black-and-white and desolate concentration camps. *Hotel Rwanda*, because it bears the stamp of modern familiarity, makes its atrocities seem frighteningly close. Even gore is unnecessary. George's shots of everyday streets and houses, littered with bodies and silent as the grave, leave enough of an impression.

We have no trouble sharing Rusesabagina's sense of injustice when an American journalist (Joaquin Phoenix) tells him that if Westerners learn what is happening, "they'll say 'Oh my God, that's terrible' and they'll go on eating their dinners." *Hotel Rwanda* can be unnecessarily sentimental, but any audience will soon be rolling with the pain and redemption Rusesabagina encounters. Emphasizing the rest of civilization's obliviousness augments this emotional force, even if it is redundant.

EXPOSURE By MARK MEHLINGER



The Collective is turning heads

New Baltimore all-female dance company brings big enthusiasm



Stacy Lanier performs as part of The Collective's *The Human Condition*.

BY JANICE MIN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

As a part of the Theatre Project's Heptasoph Series, The Collective, a Baltimore contemporary dance troupe, performed Friday night in their fourth annual showcase titled *The Human Condition*. There couldn't have been a more fitting title, as the dancers used their expressions and movements to remind the audience that the emotions one feels throughout a lifetime are the things that make us human.

The enthusiasm for the performance was visible from the start. As the audience found their seats, techno beats reverberated against the auditorium's black walls, building tension. The first of their seven pieces gave the audience an idea of how much energy and passion the dancers were going to put in the performance. Six dancers dressed in ruffled pink and orange skirts, floral dresses and bright-colored camisoles burst out from behind the black, velvet curtains and mesmerized the audience.

In one piece, four dancers suspended a fifth into the air and used coordinated movements that allowed her to plunge to the ground head first safely and roll off her stomach into two full circles. The piece was complete, however, when the dancers slowed down to a sad and melodic

violin solo, the photos appearing on the screen again. Holding their heads with their hands, they twisted as if in anguish and huddled into groups of two where one supported the other by holding her up on her back. The chemistry between the dancers, the music, and the artistic photos that were projected on the wall behind the performance provided a reflective moment among the audience, reminding us of the bittersweet experiences a person can have.

It's all about the passion when it comes to The Collective, and it's apparent when speaking to Stacie Lanier, co-director of the all-female contemporary dance troupe, founded five years ago. Lanier said that while there were other dance companies in Baltimore to join, being able to "establish a vision and basic philosophy that we felt passionate to work towards" was an important benefit of forming a new company.

The group now consists of eight other dancers whose extensive dancing backgrounds have taken them throughout the country, as well as internationally. The list of the dancers' credits is impressive — most have earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree; one dancer, Katie Carpenter, has taught ballet and hip-hop classes in Nice, France.

Their individual accomplishments, however, do not get in the way

of their group efforts, but rather enhance the unique quality of the group. Lanier commented that the company strives to "create a format where the wealth of experiences the dancers brought forward would be an asset to the group and the artistic work produced."

This collection of ideas was what made *The Human Condition* especially unique and mesmerizing — each segment possessed a different feel, ensuring that the show did not feel monotonous. Lanier emphasized the unique aspect of The Collective and added that they gave various choreographers an opportunity to create new works so that the repertoire would be "diverse and ever-shifting". Especially for *The Human Condition*, The Collective remained focused on the audience and creating expressive, moving art. "We enjoy knowing that the audience is relating to the work that we do," Lanier said. "We want people to understand and connect."

While the enthusiasm for their performing life showed during their performance, it's the group's commitment to their rehearsals that made their movements so precise and easy to watch. "On Tuesdays, we have a company ballet class and rehearsal for three hours, and on Sundays during the day, we have a modern dance class and rehearsal for five to six hours, each rehearsal geared towards upcoming performances," Lanier said.

Even with this rigorous practice schedule, members of The Collective have time to serve their communities. The majority of them teach classes to middle-school children and in local dance schools, while dancers like Michele May and Emily Tankersley work in the hospital or psychiatric settings. May is a Special Events Coordinator for the Greater Baltimore Medical Center and Tankersley, who works with mentally and physically-challenged children, uses dance therapy to enhance the healing process. Lanier also has a busy schedule as the current owner and director of the Experimental Movement Concepts — located in Hampden — teaching dance to children and adults.

The Collective's next performance will be at the BMA for the "Exhibit Expressions: Slide Show," where they will perform excerpts from the piece "Memory Box," part of *The Human Condition*, on the first Thursday of March. It is a free performance.

By the time their performance was over at the Theatre Project, the strength of The Collective's performance — along with their ability to grow a rapport with the audience — was visible when the show came to an end and the audience left smiling.

The Collective's next performance will be at the BMA for the "Exhibit Expressions: Slide Show," where they will perform excerpts of "Memory Box" as seen in *The Human Condition* on the first Thursday of March. It is a free performance.

Larry Flynt's Hustler Club

Hustler Honey SEARCH

Every
MONDAY
@ 7p.m.
\$500 Cash

Now Interviewing-
cocktail servers & bartenders



LARRY FLYNT'S HUSTLER CLUB



WWW.HUSTLERCLUBS.COM
409 E. BALTIMORE ST. • 410.468.0990

CARTOONS, ETC.

your Horoscope



ARIES: (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)
Try parting your hair from side to side, instead of from front to back, like most people do. Or just shave your head. Either way.



TAURUS: (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
The red wine you had last night had the rich aromas of leather. That's because I soak my cat o' nine tails in it, to keep the leather nice and moist.



GEMINI: (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
E. Coli is a friendly disease no worse than the common cold. The 'E' actually stands for Eddie Griffin, that guy from the movie *Undercover Brother*.



CANCER: (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Chicken, when raised free range, lose the right to be raised in a cramped cage — a decision each animal should be able to make.



LEO: (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
With all the mollicoddling you've received from your parents before you came to college, it's a wonder you're so 'into' extreme sports.



VIRGO: (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Rabies rhymes with babies, and that's no coincidence. This is because most cribs are teeming with bacteria imported from Canada.



LIBRA: (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)
Sauce, also known as 'the juice' at many establishments that serve gyros, is a valuable commodity that is not to be taken for granted. Eat it with care.



SCORPIO: (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)
At some point in your life, you must have had a bad experience with orange Gatorade, given your fear of anything that's orange.



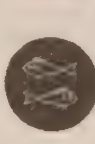
SAGITTARIUS: (NOVEMBER 22 - DEC. 21)
New globes with world maps on them will be installed in every classroom at Hopkins. No, we don't need them for teaching, but they're fun as hell to spin around.



CAPRICORN: (DEC. 23 - JANUARY 19)
China is a crazy country, and authentic food from there includes General Tso's chicken, sweet and sour chicken and chicken chow mein. So eat those foods.



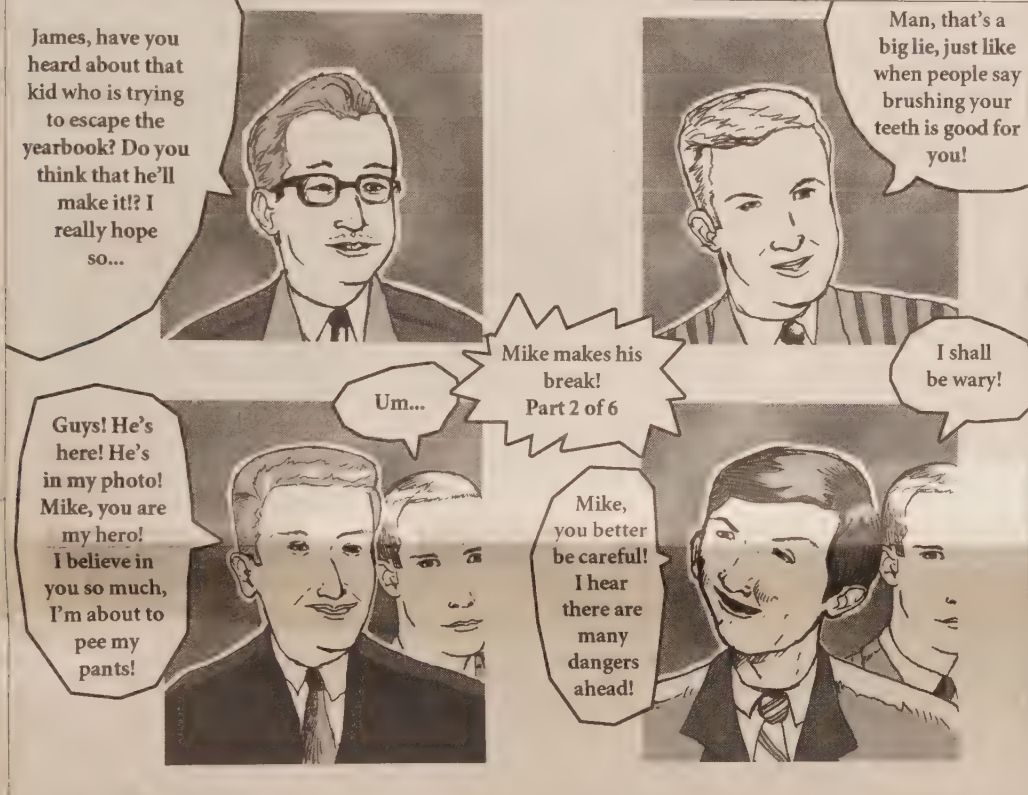
AQUARIUS: (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)
In about two weeks, that decision to take the double dog dare and lick every door handle on campus will catch up with you. But you sure showed up your friend.



PISCES: (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)
Hampden is a quirky part of Baltimore, famous for its hand-knit sweaters, authentic Amish quilts and delicious Turkish stew with corn bread.

Yearbook Confessions

by William Parschalk



Behold the power of curdled milk

I have a confession to make: I've been writing this column for over one and a half years now, and in all this time, I still have yet to write about the one subject dearest to my heart, the center of my universe, the core around which my life revolves. I don't think I've mentioned it once. Not even a passing reference.

You're probably wondering what this thing could be. Women? Drugs? Sex? No, idiot, that's what all of my columns are about. This is something deeper than that. This is something more profound. If you're reading this, and you're a close friend of mine, you should know exactly what I'm talking about by now.

Yep. This week's column is about cheese.

Oh, glorious cheese. Most of us eat it every day, but do we ever stop and think about how awesome it is? Why do we take such a glorious food for granted? Stop for a moment and imagine a world without cheese. Just imagine it. Are you seeing what I'm seeing? Barren wastelands, great cities burned to the ground, nuclear winters, tornadoes, flash floods, locusts, darkness, the plague of the first born. And even worse: *no cheese!* What kind of sick God would allow that? Not Yahweh, that's for sure!

So, it's pretty obvious that cheese is a necessary element for our survival. But what exactly is it? Let's take a look.

The word "cheese" has its roots in the Latin word *caseus*, meaning "holy food" or, alternatively, "goddamn this is good." Cheese is produced from the curdled milk of an animal. While this animal is most commonly a cow, other animals are also used, such as goats, sheep, reindeer, and water buffalo (I'm not even kidding about this one). It would seem that you can make cheese out of any type of milk. That's right: your mom is a potential cheese source. I hope you think about that every day for the rest of your life.

Unlike other lame foods that can only be eaten one way (for example, cardboard), cheese has many different ways of being consumed. For example, cheese can be eaten plain, by

itself. It can be eaten in slice form, chunk form, string form, or even rolled into a huge ball. It can also be eaten in spray form (all hail Easy Cheese, king of sprayable foods). If you want, you can melt it into a sauce and drink it. I don't know of anyone who's tried to consume it intravenously, but once I get some Vermont cheddar and a needle, it's on.

MATT DIAMOND ONE FRY SHORT

Cheese is also a crucial ingredient in many other more complex foods, such as macaroni and cheese, grilled cheese and pizza. These tasty foods would be nothing without cheese (in fact, they would be macaroni, grilled bread and baked bread with tomato sauce, all of which sound pretty lame). In addition to being an important food ingredient, cheese also makes a dandy topping. You can pour cheese sauce on anything, and you've got an instant classic. While scientists have yet to decide whether Dr. Pepper truly makes the world taste better, I can tell you with absolute confidence that cheese, when applied correctly, can make everything delicious. Except broccoli. That vegetable is beyond redemption.

So, it would appear that cheese is the perfect food. And yet, in the face of all this overwhelming evidence, there are actually people who don't like cheese. In fact, there are even people that go so far as to *hate* cheese. These cheese-haters are seemingly normal people, easily able to blend in with the rest of sane society. You've probably walked past them and not even known it. You may have even talked with them. In fact, you may be friends with a cheese-hater, or even related to one. I know, it scares me too.

I talked with one such cheese-hater, who will be known here as "Jennings." As a sophomore at Hopkins, Jennings is a typical JHU student: belligerent and Republican.

"I hate all kinds of cheese, except pizza cheese," says Jennings, whose hatred of liberals is eclipsed only by his disdain for dairy products. "I hate how Wolman insists on making cheeseburgers but not hamburgers. I hate how there's four billion different kinds of cheese, and I never know which one is which because I hate them all."

The other day, Jennings ordered a cheese fries appetizer at Ruby Tuesday's, but with "just a little bit of cheese, because I don't like cheese, but I need some cheese to make the bacon and ranch dressing sticky." However, the restaurant failed to meet his demands.

"There was just too much cheese," says Jennings.

As you can see, Jennings has no tolerance for cheese (or left-wingers). What could have caused this irrational hatred? Did something traumatic happen in his childhood? Was a family member killed in a tragic cheese-related accident?

Of course not. Cheese would never hurt anyone (cheese is a pacifist). The sad truth is that there is no explanation. Cheese hatred remains yet another scientific mystery, much like why yawns are contagious, or how the author of this column is so incredibly attractive. However, despite its detractors, cheese is and will always be an essential part of the global cuisine. It is the universal constant. Whatever country you're from, whatever language you speak ... chances are, you like cheese. Oh, and you probably hate the United States.

What lies in the future for cheese? Will cheese rise above the realm of mere food and begin to dominate other industries? Will there ever be buildings made of Monterey Jack? Airplanes made of Asiago? Cars made of Colby? No, of course not. That's just stupid. However, cheese is an awesome food, and it's my favorite thing in the world. I mean, besides women, drugs and sex. Which I'll get back to writing about next week.

Matt Diamond has the blue box blues and can be contacted at PianoMattD@aol.com.

THE DOODLE SHOWCASE

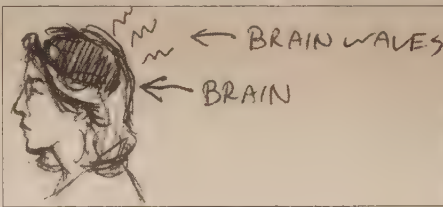


Welcome, once again, to the doodles showcase! Sophomore Amy Kosel returns again this week, with a brand new doodle, portraying the intricate qualities and beauty of this wolf-like creature! Marvelous technique! Be glad that I am here, with my refined, trained tongue, to label such brilliance!



Man this janx is dope!

Freshman Jonathan Pan presents this depiction of a model skyline, complete with what seems to be the famous Space Needle in the center! Extravagant!

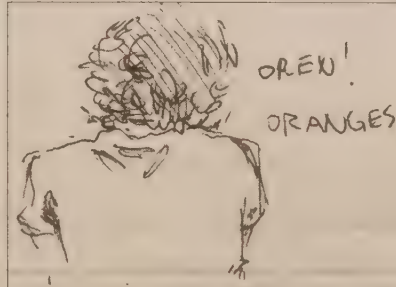
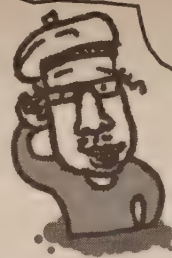


Dis' janx is off da hook!

Whoops, I meant to say Julia Zhou also created this excellent depiction of the student in front of her during lecture! Great!

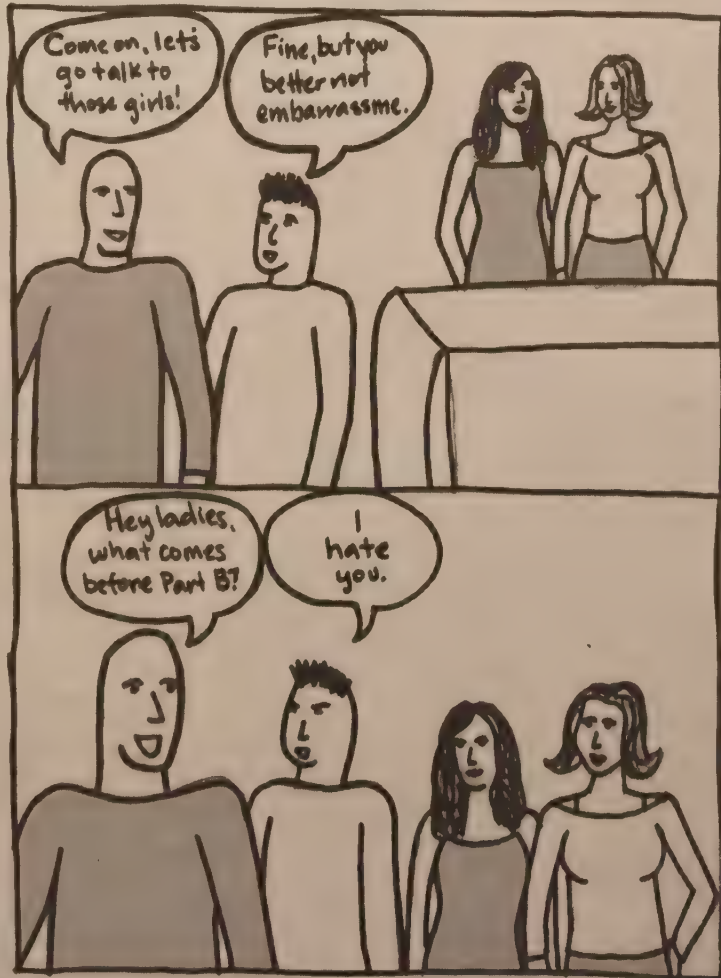
Send your doodles to GRAPHICS@jhunewsletter.com

Here, to our left and bottom right, we have two pieces by freshman Julia Zhou. She has a very fresh style, with nice bold strokes that really bring her doodles to life!



Splanktastic!

by Ann Angiulo



CALENDAR

FEATURED EVENTS

Life during wartime: DJ veteran Dieselboy sets his sites on Sonar

Dieselboy has been spinning Jungle and Drum ‘n’ Bass since it first hit America’s shores in the early ‘90s. He has DJed all over the earth and made a name for himself with his array of mixed discs as well as his several artist LPs, but he got his start organizing house parties and playing live. This Saturday, Dieselboy will bless Sonar’s decks in what is sure to be a great show.

Born in Steel City, PA, Damien Higgins started out as a drummer in his high-school band and became interested in a variety of genres of beat heavy music. His Web site says that it was when he heard the “classic T99 techno track ‘Anastasia’” that he became interested in DJing. He started at Carnegie Mellon’s WRCT 88.3 in Pittsburgh and literally learned as he went along, improving live on his show each week. While the Steelers may bring joy to Pittsburgher’s hearts, heavy techno never really caught on, and the lack of venues put Dieselboy in the position of having to earn a fanbase through his show and a variety of mixed tapes he peddled

online.

With that fan base he slowly began to get mainstream recognition and eventually moved into the #1 slot for American DnB DJs. Along the way he amassed a variety of awards and firsts, most of which involve his status as a colonial in a primarily British dominated genre. He was the first U.S. DJ to play Fabric in London, have a record played at Metalheadz, as well as tied (with the fabulous LTJ Bukem) as the first U.S. DJ to be nominated and win in the Best DnB DJ category at the 98 Global DJ Mix Awards. Despite these victories, though, the boy continues to be obsessed with pushing the envelope.

Last year saw the release of “The Dungeonmaster’s Guide.” With a title that references campy “Dungeons and Dragons” series, the mix comes across as anything but and features a variety of artists as well commentary from Peter Cullen, the voice of the Transformers’ Optimus Prime.

Catch Dieselboy this upcoming Wednesday at the Sonar Lounge. For more info and tickets visit <http://www.sonarlounge.com>.

— John Lichtefeld



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ANDREWKENDAL.COM](http://www.andrewkendal.com)
Get with the Futureheads: The wildly talented new group returns to the area to rock D.C.’s 9:30 club.

The Futureheads play 9:30 club

This Monday, D.C.’s 9:30 Club will open its doors to Sunderland based pop punk outfit the Futureheads. The past year has been good for independent rock and punk bands, as the genre has experienced a meteoric rise to the forefront of the youth music industry. Indie bands have laid an inescapable claim to society; the Walkmen play background music on the OC, Interpol singles flow freely over the airwaves from college radio stations across the country and the Shins line the track lists of countless lovelorn mix tapes. Mainstream success has found bands such as the Killers, Franz Ferdinand and Modest Mouse, musical pioneers who have paved the way for the multitude of lesser-known indie acts. One of the most promising of these bands is the Futureheads.

This is a band whose sound captures a raw energy that defies the tailored over production; at times the crashing cymbals and frantic guitar chords beautifully overpower the vocals themselves. The Futureheads combine a sheer simplicity and rebellious freedom in their music which is reminiscent of veteran bands like the Ramones and XTC. Along with their carefree sound, they also employ a tight melodic style that would lead some listeners to believe they were in fact the progeny of the Buzzcocks and early Clash.

The Futureheads released their self-titled debut album in October of last year to universal acclaim. The first few minutes of “Le Garage” charges in at a frenzied pace, generating a momentum that carries through the entirety of the album’s 33-minute

span. “Carnival Kids” gives a nod to the young at heart, as the tail end of the song reaches a halting crescendo. The biting invective of the first line of *Alms* (You wasted it/ You fell asleep/ It was not late/ You missed the point) is highlighted by a quiet pause, which quickly develops into a twisting, tempo shifting, animal of a song. One of the true hits on the Futureheads’s album is their cover of Kate Bush’s classic “Hounds of Love,” which puts a syncopated spin on the original track.

The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$12. Opening acts include the Shout Out Louds and the High Speed Scene. For more information visit <http://www.930.com>.

Stephanie Yu

Clay on display in Baltimore

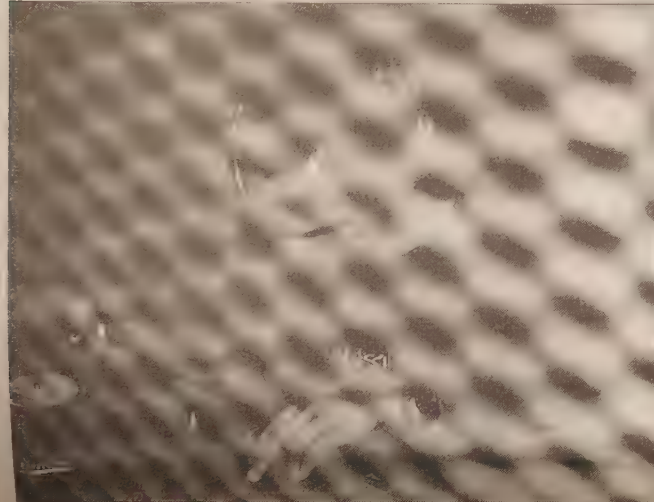
The world’s best ceramics come to Baltimore Clayworks Feb. 19 through April 3 for the Tour de Clay, which features 878 artists and 160 exhibitions in one location. Tour de Clay celebrates the coming together of artists, galleries and leaders from the area to display a number of clay and art possibilities. The exhibition will continue on through 122 venues in the Greater Baltimore region.

The Kick-Off Reception will be held on Feb. 19 from 6-9 p.m. Artists, curators, gallery directors, government officials, staff and fans will all be able to partake in this unparalleled event. The lighting of the Tour de Clay torch will serve as a major portion of the night. Following this, the eight-foot vessel, created by local artist Jo Schneider, will continue to hold its post outside Baltimore Clayworks for the remainder of the Tour de Clay. The reception will also feature the display of three exciting exhibitions: the *Richard DeVore Solo Exhibition*, *2004 International Orton Cone Box Show*, and *Endless Variations: Shino Review 2005*.

Tour de Clay will be the largest visual arts program ever to sweep the country. It embraces all forms of clay art and features artists from 47 states and many international locations including Norway, Switzerland, Korea, Africa, Japan, Taiwan and Scotland. The show will overlap with the American Craft Council show (Feb. 22-27) and the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference (March 16-19).

Baltimore Clayworks is located at 5707 Smith Ave. in Baltimore. The Tour de Clay is supported by a number of local and regional organizations and companies as well as many generous individuals.

Anusha Gopalratnam



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.SILVERRAVER.COM](http://www.silverraver.com)
Dieselboy brings heavy beats and sick rhythms from the dungeon.

Spiritual and Religious Services

THURSDAY, FEB. 17

12 p.m. **Lutheran Discussion Group** will meet in Levering. For more information call Rev. Don Burggraf (410) 235-2356.

5 p.m. **A Divine Liturgy and Dinner** for Eastern Orthodox students will be held at the Interfaith Center.

7:30 p.m. **Baptist Bible study** will take place at the University Baptist Church.

9 p.m. **Unitarian Universalist Services** with Dr. Larry Egbert will take place in the Interfaith Center Library.

FRIDAY, FEB. 18

1:15 p.m. **Jumah prayers** will be held at the Interfaith Center. Visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~jhumso> for more information.

8 p.m. **Seventh Day Adventist** services with Fredrick Russell will be held at the Interfaith Center.

SATURDAY, FEB. 19

Time TBA, **Shabbat Dinner** at the Interfaith center; for more information and updated times visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~jsa>.

SUNDAY, FEB. 20

11 a.m. **Catholic Mass** will be held at the Interfaith Center. Visit <http://www.catholic.jhu.edu> for more information.

11 a.m. **Aarthi** will be held at the Interfaith Center, lower level. For more information, e-mail HSC@jhu.edu.

2 p.m. **Stepping Stones Ministry** will hold services in Shaffer 3, followed by a fellowship meeting at 3:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. **Baptist services and contemporary worship** will take place

at the University Baptist Church.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

7 p.m. **Buddhist meditation** will be practiced at the Interfaith Center.

8 p.m. **The Graduate Christian Fellowship** will have its weekly meeting in the Marylander Apartments, London Room. For more information e-mail Bmac@jhu.edu.

Performing Arts

THURSDAY, FEB. 17

7:30 p.m. See the **James Cotton Blues Band** at the Gordon Center in Owing Mills. For more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

FRIDAY, FEB. 18

8 p.m. See a performance of **Shadowlands** at the Merrick Barn. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$14 for senior citizens, and \$5 for student rush tickets. Call Theatre Hopkins at (410) 516-7159 for details.

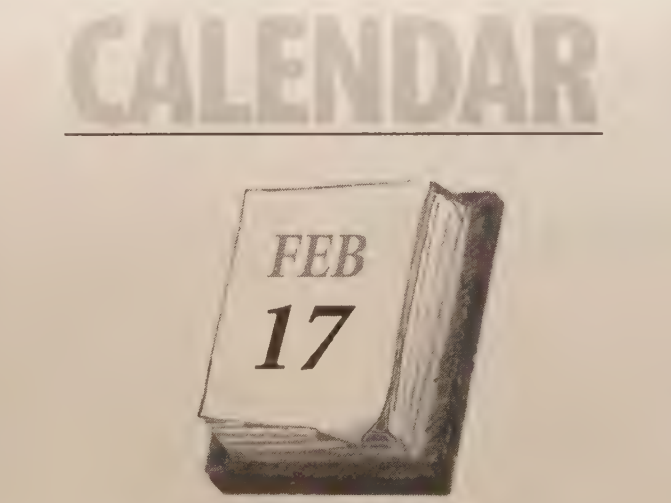
8 p.m. Check out **Black History Month Celebration: “Leading The Past Into Tomorrow”** at the Arellano Theater of Levering Hall. The cost is \$10 to participate, \$5 for all attendees.

SATURDAY, FEB. 19

8 p.m. See a performance of **Shadowlands** at the Merrick Barn. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$14 for senior citizens, and \$5 for student rush tickets. Call Theatre Hopkins at (410) 516-7159 for details.

8 p.m. Shake those winter blues at this free campus concert. Baltimore’s best lays it down in Levering’s Great Hall as part of **A Funky February Evening with the Bridge**.

10 p.m. See the **24 Hour Theatre Experiment** in Arellano. The actual performance of the productions, which will be completely created in



FEBRUARY 17 TO 24

24 hours, is on Saturday night at 10 p.m.

11 p.m. See a theatrical production of **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** in the Arellano Theatre.

SUNDAY, FEB. 20

2:15 p.m. See a performance of **Shadowlands** at the Merrick Barn. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$14 for senior citizens, and \$5 for student rush tickets. Call Theatre Hopkins at (410) 516-7159 for details.

3 p.m. The Hopkins Symphony Orchestra presents their **Chamber Orchestra Concert** in the SDS room of the Mattin Center. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for seniors, students, JHU faculty, staff, and alumni.

MONDAY, FEB. 21

10 p.m. See the finished product of the **24 Hour Theatre Experiment** in Arellano.

1 p.m. Check out **Disney On Ice: Mickey & Minnie’s Magical Journey** at the MCI Center in D.C. Tickets are \$15-\$57 and can be found at <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

7 p.m. **WWE Smackdown! The Road to Wrestlemania** is coming to the 1st Mariner Arena. For tickets and infor-

mation, visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

TUESDAY, FEB. 22

7:30 p.m. See **The Member of the Wedding** at Ford’s Theatre in D.C. For tickets and more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

8 p.m. See **Say Goodnight, Gracie** at the Hippodrome Performing Arts Center. For more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. See **The Member of the Wedding** at Ford’s Theatre in D.C. For tickets and more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

8 p.m. See **Comic Dan Ahdoot** in Shriver Hall. This event is free with College I.D. Contact jsa@jhu.edu for more information.

8 p.m. See **The Graduate** at the Warner theatre in D.C. For tickets and more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

THURSDAY, FEB. 24

7:15 p.m. See **Cryptopsy** at the Jaxx Nightclub in Springfield, Va. For tick-

ets and more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

8 p.m. See **St. Joan** at the Olney Theatre Center in Olney, Md. For tickets and more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

Miscellaneous Events

THURSDAY, FEB. 17

5:30 p.m. The **Safety On & Off Campus** information session in the Wolman East Lounge will give tips for those moving off-campus.

7:15 p.m. The **Winter Film Series Presents “North by Northwest”** in the Mountcastle Auditorium of PTB 725 N. Wolf St.

7:30 p.m. See **“What I’ve Learned About U.S. Foreign Policy”** in Shaffer Hall, Room 3. This event is brought to you by the Hopkins Anti-war Coalition. For more information e-mail gerri3@jhu.edu.

FRIDAY, FEB. 18

5 p.m. **The National Aquarium in Baltimore** offers a discounted admission of \$5 every Friday after 5 p.m. The discounted admission is a great deal, so don’t pass it up! Even if you have been to the aquarium before, head down to check out the new dolphin show. For more information, including hours of operation, group discounts and directions, call (410) 567-3845.

8 p.m. **The Maryland Space Grant Observatory**, located in Bloomberg, offers you a free chance to look at the solar system with its telescopes, weather permitting. Call (410) 516-6525 for weather updates and observing conditions before you hike up to Bloomberg.

8 p.m. Want to do something productive after graduation? Don’t miss the **Teach for America deadline** online at <http://www.teachforamerica.org>.

10 p.m. **Coffee Grounds** takes place every Friday night in the Mattin Center Silk Road Cafe. Come out for the free Krispy Kreme doughnuts and coffee, and stay for the fun

evening activity.

SATURDAY, FEB. 19

1 p.m. Attend the opening reception for the **“Tour De Clay” Exhibit** at the Homewood House and Evergreen House.

6 p.m. Check out **Black History Month Celebration: “Leading The Past Into Tomorrow”** at the Glass Pavilion. The cost is \$10 to participate, \$5 for all attendees.

SUNDAY, FEB. 20

10 a.m. See **Men’s Fencing** at the Athletics Center.

7:30 p.m. See **Intimations for Saxophone** on the Arena Stage in D.C. For tickets adn more information visit <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

MONDAY, FEB. 21

10 a.m. See the works of 25 artists at the **Contemporary Swedish Ceramics** exhibit in the Meryerhoff Gallery in MICA. For more information call (410) 225-2300.

11:30 a.m. Ron Brown will be giving a **DJ Workshop** at the Community College of Baltimore County, Essex Campus. This is a free event, and more information can be found by calling (410) 780-6572.

7 p.m. See **Das Boot** in the Eisenhower library’s small screening room. This event is sponsored by the German department and is part of its “Claustrophobia in German Film Series.”

TUESDAY, FEB. 22

12 p.m. **Sistah’s Speak Out: Hip Hop Presentation** will be held at Anne Arundel Community College. This is a free event. For more information call (410) 777-2284.

8:00 p.m. **A panel of speakers will be discussing the tsunami** in the Glass Pavilion. Speakers will include representatives from Unicef, the School of Public Health and the Washington Post.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

CALENDAR

CONCERT AND MOVIE LISTINGS

THURSDAY, FEB. 17

9 p.m. Shake Davies and Mod Dave present Satisfy the Need at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

8 p.m. Papa Mali, Stone Gato, and Herbie will perform at the Funk Box. For more info visit <http://www.thefunkbox.com>.

9 p.m. Skeleton Key and the Flesh will perform at the Black Cat in D.C. For more information visit <http://www.blackcatdc.com>.

FRIDAY, FEB. 18

8 p.m. Black River Circus with Addhash and Phatty Jones will perform at the Recher Theatre in Towson. For more info visit <http://www.rechertheatre.com>.

9 p.m. Wes McDonough and Fools and Horses with Kenin will perform at the Funk Box. For more info visit <http://www.thefunkbox.com>.

8 p.m. The Music with Kasabian and Morningwood will perform at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C. For more info visit <http://www.930.com>.

9 p.m. The Elements Party featuring PlagueUP, Isikar and DJ P-Funk will happen at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

9:30 p.m. Julia Dexter and Ursula Rucker will perform at the Black Cat in D.C. For more information please visit <http://www.blackcatdc.com>.

SATURDAY, FEB. 19

8 p.m. Long Beach Shortbus with The Big Hurt will perform at the Recher Theatre in Towson. For more info visit <http://www.rechertheatre.com>.

8 p.m. The Voodudes will perform at the Funk Box. For more info visit <http://www.thefunkbox.com>.

5:30 p.m. The Static Age, Mommy and Daddy, Eyes Like Knives and Guests will perform at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

8 p.m. Martin Sexton will perform at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C. For more info visit <http://www.930.com>.

SUNDAY, FEB. 20

5 p.m. See.Listen.Enjoy, Injoy, One Trip Over the Mushroom, Xanthematic, and Point Blank will perform at Annie's Playground Benefit at the Recher Theatre in Towson. For more info visit <http://www.rechertheatre.com>.

6 p.m. Brandtson, Number One Fan, Gym Class Heroes, Val Emmich will perform at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

7 p.m. Ginseng Feat. Ultra Nate and Donny Burlin will perform at the Funk Box. For more info visit <http://www.thefunkbox.com>.

7 p.m. Open Mic Night at the Funk Box. For more

info visit <http://www.thefunkbox.com>

8 p.m. The Futureheads, Shout Out Louds and The High Speed Scene will perform at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C. For more info visit <http://www.930.com>.

9 p.m. The Sirens and Hello Tokyo will take place at the Black Cat in D.C. For more information please visit <http://www.blackcatdc.com>.

6 p.m. Armor For Sleep & Recover, Say Anything & Chase Pagan will perform at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

TUESDAY, FEB. 22

8 p.m. Le Tigre and the Lesbians on Extacy will perform at the 9:30 Club in Washington, D.C. For more info visit <http://www.930.com>.

9 p.m. The Panoply Academy Legionnaires, Travis Morrison and the Daggerhearts will perform at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

9 p.m. Mark Kozelek and Sun Kil Moon will perform at the Ottobar. For more info visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

THURSDAY, FEB. 24

8 p.m. Young Dubliners with Donegal X-Press and Orphan Project will perform at the Funk Box. For more info visit <http://www.thefunkbox.com>.

SHOWTIMES FOR THE CHARLES THEATRE FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Revivals
Saturdays at 12 p.m.
Thursdays at 9 p.m.

Stage Door
Thursday, Feb. 17

Bringing Up Baby
Saturday, Feb. 19
Thursday, Feb. 24

House of Flying Daggers
Rated (PG-13)- 1 hr. 59 min.
5 p.m., 10 p.m.

Hotel Rwanda
Rated (R)- 1 hr. 50 min.
2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:40 p.m.

SHOWTIMES FOR AMC TOWSON COMMONS 8 FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Are We There Yet?
Rated (PG)- 1 hr. 31 min.
4:20 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:50 p.m.

The Aviator
Rated (PG-13)- 2 hrs. 35 min.
4:30 p.m., 8 p.m.

Boogeyman
Rated (PG-13)- 1 hr. 26 min.
4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

Coach Carter
Rated (PG-13)- 2 hrs. 14 min.
4 p.m., 7 p.m., 10 p.m.

The Woodsman
Rated (R)- 1 hr. 27 min.
4:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m.

Bad Education
Unrated- 1 hr. 49 min.
2:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:45 p.m.

Sideways
Rated (R)- 2 hr. 3 min.
2:30 p.m., 4:50 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 10 p.m. (Noon show added on Sat. and Sun.)

Lightning in a Bottle
Rated (PG-13)- 1 hr. 43 min.
2:15 p.m., 7 p.m.

Hide and Seek
Rated (R)- 1 hr. 45 min.
4:45 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

Hitch
Rated (PG-13)- 1 hr. 55 min.
4:10 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 10:10 p.m.

Million Dollar Baby
Rated (PG-13)- 2 hrs. 17 min.
4 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:15 p.m.

Pooh's Heffalump Movie
Rated (G)- 1 hr. 8 min.
4:40 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 9:40 p.m.

4 p.m. Interviewing is an art – come learn more about it at the Interviews 250 information session in Mattin 162.	University of Chicago-Pritzker Medical School, sign up in the Pre-Professional Advising office, 3rd floor of Garland Hall.	sons Auditorium in the Applied Physics Laboratory.	Peabody Conservatory give an Early Music Lecture in the Great Hall of Levering. Cost is free, but reservations are required. Call (410) 516-7164 for details and reservations.
5:30 p.m. Moving off-campus? Find out How to Afford Affordable Housing at this information session in the Wolman East Lounge.	2 p.m. Meet employers for great opportunities in careers or internships in the bioscience industry at the Bioscience Career Fair in the Glass Pavilion.	MONDAY, FEB. 21	7:30 p.m. Valina L. Dawson, Ph.D. and professor of neuroscience & physiology at JHSOM, speak on Inspiration To Innovation in room 111 of Mergenthaler.
6 p.m. Check out Chicago, Recent Grads 10Pin Bowling Party off-campus at the 10pin Bowling Lounge.	3 p.m. Susan Lindee of the University of Pennsylvania will speak on Moments of Truth: Folk and Social Knowledge in Genomic Medicine in the Seminar Room, 3rd floor of the Welch Medical Library. This talk is sponsored by the History of Science, Medicine and Technology department.	12:15 p.m. See Susan Rogers of the Urban Institute speak at the Monday Noon Demography & Reproductive Health Seminar in room W2030 of the Bloomberg School of Public Health, 615 N. Wolfe St.	7:30 p.m. Learn about the inspirations and innovations of neuroscience professor Valina L. Dawson, Ph.D. as part of The Voyage and Discovery Lecture Series in Mergenthaler 111.
THURSDAY, FEB. 24	FRIDAY, FEB. 18	TUESDAY, FEB. 22	WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23
7:15 p.m. The Winter Film Series Presents Three Days At The Condor in the Mountcastle Auditorium, PTB 725 N. Wolf St.	8:30 a.m. Kathryn Tuma, Ph.D., associate curator of The Drawing Center, will speak on Phenomenality And Materiality In Cezanne: The Construction Of Cezanne's "Stroke" in room 255 of Mergenthaler Hall.	4 p.m. See Bill Rowe, John and Diane Cooke Professor of Chinese History, speak on Ecology, Biology, and Technology: The Historical Vision of Owen Lattimore in room 315 of Gilman.	4:30 p.m. See Dr. Floyd W. Hayes speak on Legacy: Understanding Black Power Forty Years Later in the Multipurpose Room of AMR I.
7:30 p.m. There will be a Memorial Service for undergraduate student Dominic Ferrara in the Bunting-Meyerhoff Interfaith and Community Service Center.	12 p.m. See Joni Huff, Director of Admissions at University of Chicago-Pritzker Medical School, speak at this information session in the Sherwood Room of Levering Hall.	4 p.m. See Greg Duncan, Ph.D. and professor of Northwestern University, speak on Empathy or Antipathy: The Impact Of Diversity in room 526 of the Wyman Building.	THURSDAY, FEB 24
Lectures and Workshops	2 p.m. Dr. John Slaughter, National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, will speak on Black History: A Time For A New Chapter In Science And Technology in the Par-	4 p.m. See Michael Douglas speak on String Theory and Geometry in room 308 in Krieger.	3 p.m. See Joann Binko Sanders, PhD Candidate in the department of Health Policy & Management of JHSPH, speak as part of the Thesis Defense Seminar: Behavior Change and Adolescent Girls in room 1003 of the Ross Research Building, Bloomberg School of Public Health, 615 N. Wolfe St.
THURSDAY, FEB. 17		5:30 p.m. Hear Ray Sprenkle of the	3 p.m. The Locations of Indian Sci-
10 a.m. For One on One with Joni Huff — Director of Admissions at			

This is News-Letter.

HTTP://WWW.JHUNWSLETTER.COM

NIGHTLIFE

CLUBS

9:30 Club, 815 V. St, NW, Washington, 202-393-0930
Baja Beach Club, 55 Market Pl., 410-727-0468
Bohagers, 701 S. Eden St., 410-563-7220
Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Washington, 202-667-7960
Brass Monkey, 1601 Eastern Ave., 410-522-0784
Buddies Pub and Jazz Club, 313 N. Charles St., 410-332-4200
Cat's Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St., 410-276-9085
Club 2314, 2314 Boston St., 410-276-9556
DeGroen's Grill, 104 Albemarle St., 410-837-5000
Fletcher's, 701 S. Bond St., 410-558-1889
Hal Daddy's, 4119 E. Lombard St., 410-342-3239
Harry's, 1200 N. Charles Street, 410-685-2828
Hammerjacks, 316 Guilford Ave., 410-234-0044
Horse You Came In On, 1626 Thames St., 410-327-8111
Latin Palace, 509 S. Broadway, 410-522-6700
Lava Lounge, Pier Four, 410-539-7888
Ottobar, 2549 N. Howard St., 410-662-0069
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, 410-337-7178
Redwood Trust, 200 E. Redwood St., 410-669-9500
Sonar, 407 E. Saratoga St., 410-327-8333
The Talking Head, 203 E. Davis St., 410-962-5588
The Vault, 401 W. Baltimore St., 410-244-6000
Waterfront Hotel, 1710 Thames St., 410-327-4886
Wyatt's, 1614 Eastern Av., 410-732-8656

COMEDY

Comedy Factory, 36 Light St., 410-752-4189
The Improv, 6 Market Place at Power Plant Live, 410-727-8500
Tracy's Comedy Shop, 9306 Harford Rd., 410-665-8600

COFFEE

Borders Bookstore and Music, 415 York Road, 410-296-0791
Cafe Tattoo, 4825 Belair Road, 410-325-7427
Donna's, 3101 St. Paul St., 410-889-3410
E Level, Levering Hall, JHU, 410-516-6219
Fell's Point Cafe, 723 S. Broadway, 410-327-8800
Funk's Democratic Coffee Spot, 1818 Eastern Av., 410-276-3865
Images Cafe, 3120 St. Paul St., 410-235-3054
Margarets Cafe, 909 Fell St., 410-276-5606
One World Cafe, 100 W. University Parkway, 410-235-5777
Sweet Retreats, 3215 N. Charles St.
XandO, 3003 N. Charles St., 410-889-7076
Ze Mean Bean Cafe, 1739 Fleet St., 410-675-5999

MOVIE THEATRES

AMC Towson Commons 8, 435 York Road, Ste. 200, 410-825-5233
Charles Theatre, 1711 N. Charles St., 410-727-FILM
Rotunda Cinematheque, 711 W. 40th St., 410-235-4800
Senator Theatre, 5904 York Rd., 410-435-8338

ECUADOR: TOP OF THE WORLD

PHOTOS BY MEMBERS OF OUTDOOR PURSUITS



COURTESY OF DANIEL TOUCHETTE



COURTESY OF DANIEL TOUCHETTE



COURTESY OF KEVIN PEARL



COURTESY OF ROSE ZULLIGER

Ten undergraduates, two graduate students, one faculty member, and one staff member, all with Outdoor Pursuits, spent two weeks in Ecuador this past Intersession. The purpose of the trip was to get to the top of Volcan Cotopaxi, a journey which required the team to push themselves physically, mentally and emotionally. Next year they will tackle different and exciting mountains throughout Ecuador while being immersed in an unforgettable cultural experience.

Top left: Children living in the Quito City dump tackle team member Rose Zulliger. The team brought food to and played with children living in the dump.

Top right: Cotopaxi from afar.

Center: Volcanic crater of Cotopaxi at summit. Volcan Cotopaxi (elevation 19,347 ft.) is one of the world's highest active volcanoes.

Left: The team pushed past exhaustion and climbed for 12 hours through the night to reach the summit of Volcan Cotopaxi.

Bottom Left: City of Quito.

Bottom Right: The entire Outdoor Pursuits team at the summit of Rucu Pichincha.

Text by Daniel Touchette



COURTESY OF RUSSELL HAYDEN



COURTESY OF PHIL FRIESEN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER



Best of Baltimore

Table of Contents

D I N I N G

Page 4

Chinese
Indian
Italian
Mexican
Late-Night Bite
BBQ
Street Vendor
Ice Cream
Food District
Cheese Steak
Crabcakes
Crabs
Coffee
Bagel
Guilty Pleasure
Breakfast
Brunch
Night Out
Diner
Sandwich
Coffee Shop
Vegetarian Restaurant

Chain Restaurant

Chain Pizza
Dessert Shop
Hamburger
Hot Dog
Chef

E N T E R T A I N M E N T

Page 12

Large Concert Venue
Punk Venue
Indie Venue
Hip Hop Venue
Baltimore Band
Disc Jockey
Electronica Venue
Dance Club
Comedy Club
Movie Theatre
Video Rental
Art Museum
Musuem
Cheap Date
Expensive Date

Beer

Happy Hour
Sports Venue
Local Athlete
College Night

S E R V I C E S

Page 16

Liquor Store
Florist
Bookstore
Music Store
Mall
Grocery Store
Haircut
Shoe Store
Vintage Store
Tattoo Parlor
Piercing Place

H O P K I N S

Page 18

Class

Stereotype

Administrator
Guest Speaker
Hop Cop
Service with a Smile
Alum
Reason not to Transfer
Place to Procrastinate
Acapella Group
Campus Publication
Theatre Performance
Sports Team
Recreation Center Activity
Female Athlete and Male Athlete
Campus Building
Classroom
Boys' Bathroom
Girls' Bathroom
Neighboring School
Dorm
Campus Eatery
Place to Study
Parking Spot
Thing to Do in the Library

A Note to the Best Readers

We know we can't change your overall opinion of Hopkins or your feelings about its undeniably problem-plagued setting, the city of Baltimore. What we can do, however, and hope to do with this edition, the *News-Letter's* very first Best of Baltimore issue, is help you decide how to best spend your days at this school and in this city — whether you love it, hate it, or just don't know what to make of it.

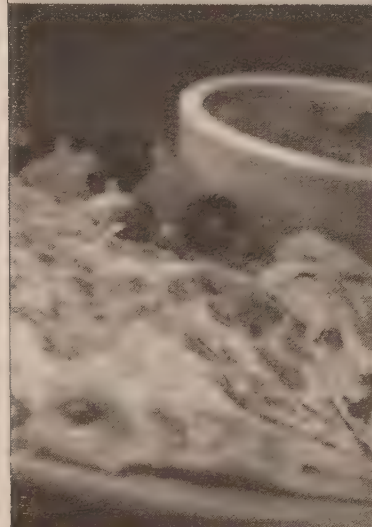
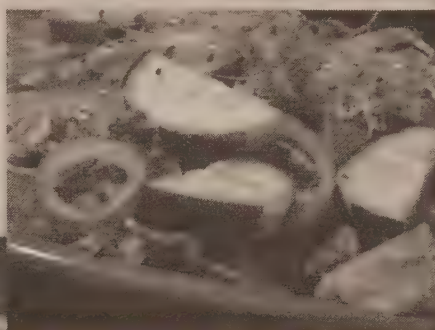
We've scoured the city and campus for the very best businesses, places, and people in a multitude of categories. Whether you're still relatively new to Baltimore or have your apartment half-packed in anticipation of graduation day, we hope you'll take advantage of our research. It would be a shame to live here for four years without really living here — you know, being able to recommend a good restaurant, having a favorite coffee shop, watching local sports once or twice.

Baltimore is admittedly rough around the edges, but we've found some exemplary offerings for your dining, service-oriented, and entertainment needs. We also looked around campus, recognizing components of Hopkins that particularly stand out.

We'd like to thank contributing staff members for their legwork and the writers who stepped up to help out. We would also, of course, like to thank all of our winners for being so good — so good that they're the best.

— Melissa Artnak and Gina Callahan
Special Editions/Focus Editors

**satisfy
your
soul!**



One World Café

"Voted Best Bloody Mary"

100 W University, Charles Village
410.235.5777

Monday Nights
Pasta Night \$6.95
Spaghetti w/ marinara sauce & tofu meatballs, garlic bread, side salad. \$1 off House wine

Tuesday Nights
1/2 Price Quesadillas & burritos.
\$3.50 Margaritas Made Fresh!

Wednesday Nights
Happy Hour All Night Long

Thursday Nights
\$2.00 Yuengling Drafts

Saturday and Sunday Brunch 8am-3pm
Omelettes, Waffles, Buttermilk Pancakes, Topped with Fresh Fruit, Mimosas & Bloody Marys

Happy Hour 4pm-7pm
\$2.50 Rail & \$2 Drafts

"Voted Best Vegetarian Restaurant"

City Paper Readers Poll 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

www.one-world-cafe.com

LEARN BARTENDING

*Earning Between \$100 - \$300
NIGHTLY*

Call Today!

(410) 685-1594



BALTIMORE BARTENDING SCHOOL

- Free Lifetime, Nationwide, Job Placement Assistance
- 1 or 2 Week Courses
- Train Behind A Real Bar
- Flexible Scheduling
- Professionally Taught by Bartenders
- Approved by Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Day and Evening Classes
- Free Lifetime Refreshers
- Fun, Rewarding Job

Soul Maryland Member World Bartender Training Organization

**COME MEET DAVE & DARLENE,
OUR NEWEST FAMILY MEMBERS!**



"BALTIMORE'S BEST BREAKFAST & BURGER"

CITY PAPER

Corner of 32nd & Greenmount



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Café Zen has great food and emphasizes relaxation and purity with a meal.

Best Chinese Food

Café Zen

438 E. Belvedere Ave.
(410) 532-0022

If you and that special someone are going for dinner and a movie, **Café Zen** is ideal for two main reasons: delicious food and the fact that it is around the corner from the Senator Theater. If you purchase your tickets before ordering, you can receive a small discount off of your meal.

Still not convinced? The food is not only fabulous, but healthy too. While Chinese food usually seems greasy and more of a late night snack, **Café Zen** makes the whole dining experience one of relaxation and purity. To be more specific, the walls are made of tissue paper and some meals use a chicken substitute instead pork.

The vegetarian entrees all look wonderful, but if you happen to enjoy a little meat with your vegetables, try the *Gow Bah*. It is a stew that contains tender meat mixed with an array of vegetables in a sesame sauce.

The stew manages to be filling, but it is made in such a delicate way that 'stew' is almost the wrong word to use. **Café Zen** is known for its General Tsao's chicken and garlic shrimp.

The restaurant offers lunch and dinner menus and the prices on both are extremely reasonable. If you are a tofu fan, try the Tofu with Blackbean Sauce off the lunch menu. If you are going for dinner, definitely try one of the "Zen favorites," especially Zen Curry. The

curry sauce is made with 16 different spices and you can get it with shrimp, chicken, vegetables or a combination of any of the above.

— Jess Youdin

Best Indian Food

Mughal Garden

920 N. Charles St.
(410) 547-0001

Mughal Garden is a quaint Indian restaurant that offers sit-down meals and delivery. The prices are reasonable, with vegetarian options under \$10 and the range of meat dish prices averaging around \$13. For appetizers, the classic Indian cuisine staple of samosas are delicious. **Mughal Garden's** best dishes are their vegetarian dishes, although meat-lovers will enjoy entrees like the chicken tikka, which should be tried by those who are new to Indian food. If you prefer vegetarian dishes, two of the best ones to try here are malai kofta, a semi-spicy dish with baked cheese in a creamy sauce, and saag paneer, a Spinach-based dish. In addition to ordering your main meal, your table should get an order of naan bread and mango chutney, which are two Indian favorites that are highly recommended at this restaurant.

For the thrifty and the really hungry alike, there's an all-you-can-eat brunch for less than \$9 on Saturdays and Sundays, from noon until 3 p.m. **Mughal Gardens** delivers as late as 9 p.m. on weekends, and is open until 10 p.m. on weekdays and 11 p.m. on weekends.

— Katherine Brewer

Best Italian Food

Dalesio's

829 Eastern Ave.
(410) 539-1965

Head down Eastern Ave. in Little Italy, past that behemoth of a restaurant with a fake tree in the middle, and you'll find **Dalesio's**—a smaller, elegant restaurant with a lighter touch.

This modernized townhouse that maintains an old world feel isn't among the main drag of Little Italy restaurants, but it's among the best that the area has to offer. Sometimes, as **Dalesio's** shows, moderation is best. In terms of taste, the food is creative but not cutting edge.

This means two things. First, you're not going to break the bank on dinner. Second, you're not stuck with the spaghetti and meatballs or the herb encrusted pork chop with an asparagus demi-glaze.

In terms of portions, the size is perfect—you won't leave hungry and you won't have to tell the waiter you couldn't finish your meal.

Where **Dalesio's** especially shines are its seafood and pasta dishes, such as the linguine with crab and shrimp in a cognac, garlic and tomato cream sauce.

And it doesn't stop with the food. In addition to an impressive menu, **Dalesio's** has an extensive, award-winning wine list. From Amarone to Zinfandel, there are plenty of pleasing options to enjoy with your meal.

In addition, the menu isn't all high-carb, high fat. For the health-conscious, **Dalesio's** offers a number of low-fat, low-calorie dishes—most of this information is even included in the menu. While many other restaurants in Little Italy are good, none other than **Dalesio's** seem to get it right when it comes to an elegant Italian dinner.

—Jeff Katzenstein

Best Mexican Food

La Sirenita Restaurante

3928 Eastern Ave.
(410) 522-5055

Ask friends at Hopkins what their favorite Mexican restaurant is and they'll instantly reveal the sad state of Latin food affairs in Baltimore by listing chain restaurants. If you want real Mexican food, try going to a restaurant that employs real Mexicans. **La Sirenita** has two locations on Eastern Avenue and specializes in producing authentic Mexican cuisine at cheap prices. That means less chalupas and gorditas and more huaraches and chilaquiles. Tamales and flautas are cheap, but the real highlight is the chicken with mole sauce. Try finding that dish at Salsa Rico.

—Maany Peyvan

Best Late-Night Bite

Sip & Bite Diner

2200 Boston Street
(410) 675-7077

Late night dining in Charles Village is sadly limited to UniMini and Paper Moon, but when your arteries get tired of chicken parmesan subs or when you realize that Paper Moon is Megabytes with more expensive food and even worse service, Baltimore offers excellent late night dining for anyone with a car. The best place to go is the **Sip & Bite Diner**, located beyond Fells Point in Canton. The friendly staff, authentic diner coffee, extensive menu and cheap prices make for the perfect place to relax after finishing a twenty page econ paper. **Sip & Bite** specialties include one of the best cheeseburgers in Baltimore, excellent open-faced turkey sandwiches slathered with gravy, and a surprisingly good crab cake. Finish up with a slice of pie, kick back, and relax — you won't have to be up for another four hours.

— Jed Borod



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Mughal Garden offers reasonably priced food and a great weekend brunch.

Best BBQ

Andy Nelson's Southern Pit BBQ

11007 York Road
Cockeysville, MD
(410) 527-1226

Many local barbecue fanatics think that getting the good stuff requires driving hours outside of Baltimore and navigating obscure back roads in the parts of Maryland that are kind of scary. Not so — salvation is just up York Road, enveloped in a cloud of blue hickory smoke at **Andy Nelson's Southern Pit BBQ**.

The 20-minute drive pales in comparison to the two-hour expedition to Lefty's BBQ in Waldorf, Md., and unlike Ray Lewis' Full Moon BBQ scheduled to open in Canton in February, at Andy Nelson's patrons don't have to worry about the linebacker wielding a meat cleaver. Highlights

include the spice-rubbed Dixie Wings, best after a night of aging in a dorm fridge, as well as excellent pulled pork and doughy, delicious cornbread.

The ribs are excellent, both wet or dry. Rubbed and then smoked for hours, the meat is collagen rich, fall-off-the-bone delicious by the time it hits your plate. The sides are all pretty great too, with southern style bitter greens, cole slaw, baked beans and potato salad. Don't pass on the fresh lemonade either.

The main attraction, though, is the Smokehouse Beef Brisket sandwich, which may be the best thing to happen to beef on the Eastern seaboard. Add some of the excellent barbecue sauce — also available for sale — and enjoy. If you get lost on the drive over, don't worry: you'll smell the restaurant before you can see it.

— *Jed Borod*

Best Street Vendor

Curry Shack at the Market (Waverly Farmer's Market)

400 Block of E. 32nd St.
near Greenmount

There are plenty of good reasons to go to the Waverly Farmer's Market, which happens during the warm seasons every Saturday morning in the parking lot at the corner of 32nd Street between Barclay and Greenmount streets. One of the best such reasons is the **Curry Shack At The Market**, an institution which is curious because there is no Curry Shack other than the one at The Market.

I was searching for the longest time for a restaurant called The Curry Shack, but it turns out that this is real deal, street-only food. The Shack serves fare from an ethnic fusion of Jamaican jerk-style meat and veggies

and East Asian spices and food forms. A perfect example is also their best dish, the Caribbean veggie samosas, which are soft and tender and stuffed with potatoes, chick peas, sweet peppers, onions, peas and curry spices. And the spice is not spicy enough to make them inappropriate for breakfast, which is basically the only time they are available.

The only thing puzzling about the Curry Shack, which is run by locals Didi and Brian Johnson, is that they don't seem to know their market very well.

If you arrive at the Farmer's Market after, say, 10:30 a.m., they are almost always out of the samosas and their highly tasty turkey-filled West Indian Patties, even though the demand is pretty constant.

I curse them every time this happens, but then my humility comes back to me, and I kick myself for so shamefully sleeping off my hangover in such utter neglect for fantastic street food.

— *Robbie Whelan*

Best Ice Cream

Sylvan Beach Cafe

7 W. Preston Street
(410) 685-5752

I've never met an ice cream I didn't like. That said, there is ice cream that rises above the rest — smooth, creamy, fresh and homemade. **Sylvan Beach Café** might come the closest to this ice cream lover's dream.

With flavors like banana nut fudge, white Russian, Key lime pie, lemon

cookie custard and coconut-almond chip, it will take quite a few trips to sample everything this bright, friendly parlor has to offer. If you're looking for more substantial fare, Sylvan Beach serves lunch until 4 p.m.

If ice cream can be enhanced by good deeds, Sylvan Beach surpasses even Ben & Jerry's — the parlor is run by a non-profit that provides job skills training and education to high school dropouts.

Maybe good will cancels out calories — if not, Sylvan Beach offers fat-free seasonal sorbets.

— *Julianna Finelli*



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

For basic spaghetti and beyond, look no further than Little Italy.

Best Food District

Little Italy

If you are scouring Baltimore for its best food district, look no further than Little Italy — it's worth the hassle of getting a hard-to-find parking spot or paying for a cab ride.

To be sure, naming this neighborhood Baltimore's best hardly constitutes a leap of faith. For good reason, Little Italy has made itself into a restaurant destination for city residents and suburbanites alike. It boasts an impressive range of restaurants catering to a variety of budgets and tastes.

Beginning with the traditional favorites, Sabatino's is widely known as a fan favorite. If you are into people watching, for example, a visit provides the opportunity to see Baltimore's celebrities and politicians. It's also great place to visit if you're celebrating a special occasion or when taking visitors to a nice dinner.

Della Notte is one of Little Italy's most popular dining destinations. The restaurant, which benefits from its location at the corner of President and Eastern Street, lives off of its reputation and size more than its entrees. Still, it has made recently made substantial improvements. Della Notte is not cheap, however, and diners certainly pay for the ambience.

For a less expensive night out, try Amici's, a neatly decorated family-style restaurant that is light on perks but fairly heavy on the portions. It certainly does not have the class of Sabatino's or Della Notte, but it gets the job done.

If you're not completely stuffed from dinner at one of Little Italy's restaurants, stop by Vaccaro's for a delicious dessert or at least a cannoli to go.

— *Eric Ridge*

Best Cheesesteak

The Real Thing

412 York Road
Towson, MD
(410) 583-7211

As any purist would tell you, it's tough to find a true cheesesteak more than 20 miles outside of Philadelphia. In other areas of the country, Baltimore included, most are served with lettuce, tomato and other fixings that just don't belong with steak on a hoagie roll.

Even more frustrating is the fact that most storeowners will likely think you're from another planet if you order your steak with whiz — a gooey imitation cheese sauce that is the crowning glory of a real cheesesteak.

Thankfully, one small shop in Towson, **The Real Thing**, lives up to its name. The owner is a former employee of Geno's Steaks, one of Philadelphia's most famous steak joints, so it's no mystery why this 22-year-old sandwich shop serves up the best cheesesteaks in the area.

To start, forget about ordering American, provolone or Swiss cheese on your steak, and order some of the cheese sauce that is popular on their fries.

Combined with the finely chopped, tender steak and a lightly toasted, chewy roll, the result is a cheesesteak that would make any Philadelphian proud.

As an added bonus, **The Real Thing** also has a license to sell liquor, so you can enjoy the drink that was meant to go with a cheesesteak — a nice, cold beer.

— Jeff Katzenstein

Best Crabcakes

Faidley's, Lexington Market

203 N. Paca Street
(410) 727-4898

Go to **Faidley's** at the Lexington Market and get the all-lump crab cake. This is, bar none, the freakishly spectacular Baltimore crab cake spoken of in myth and legend.

You'll love every bite of your meal— huge bits of crab, light crispy crust, dash of hot sauce (you will use the hot sauce, crackers are permissible, the sandwich thing if you must), and the lettuce. You eat it on a Styrofoam plate with a cruddy plastic fork, standing up, with the raw bar behind you.

College students, when you go home for a weekend, take a box of them to share the delicious Maryland specialty with your family. They pack the things for you. They're right near the light rail stop, which is pretty convenient.

venient.

On your way to the airport, stop by the market, and say "give me ten crab cakes packed to travel" and they give you a little box with a handle, Styrofoam and ice to keep them cool, and you walk out with the treasure of Baltimore — and then your parents are *really* happy to see you.

It's pricey, but it's worth it. The flavor will make you realize that Baltimore isn't so bad after all. People who don't like Baltimore, who wish they were living in New York (well, this won't get rid of that, but it'll help), have changed their minds about the city after eating this crab cake.

They go to the Lexington Market, located in what some people refer to as a 'bad neighborhood,' they go into the admittedly run down Lexington Market building, and up to the back, where Faidley's has its own little alcove for fish-mongering, a raw bar and the lunch counter with the crab cakes.

Then they taste it. The whole project of the city is suddenly justified for them. John Waters becomes hilarious. Love this crab cake.

— Kevin Clark



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Don't leave Baltimore without trying one of Faidley's all-lump crab cakes.

Best Crabs

Costas Inn

4100 North Point Blvd.
(410) 447-1975

Angelina's

7135 Harford Road
(410) 444-5545

Maryland receives national acclaim for its crabs, so there are more than a few opportunities in the area to find high-quality crab meat. Amidst the seafood joints and the surf and turf restaurants, two crab-serving establishments stand out — **Costas Inn** and **Angelina's**.

Nick Triantafolis, whose family owns the **Costas Inn** restaurant, knows what Hopkins students need when they have a hankering for crab. The establishment, which has been around since 1971, offers crab cakes, oysters and fresh pasta with crab-stuffed mushrooms.

"The **Costas Inn** invests in offering fresh and high quality crab and takes pride in preserving the taste of Maryland's traditional crab. In doing so, [The **Costas Inn**] imports shipments of comparably tasting Louisiana and Texas crabs, which ensure the high quality, size and weight the Chesapeake Bay crabs lack during the winter months," said Triantafolis.

For a little surf and turf at the Inn, try the Triantafilos Special — black Angus steak covered in crab imperial sauce. The **Costas Inn** also caters to the personal tastes and budgets of its clientele and offers a comfortable setting where families and friends do not have to worry about high prices and parking tickets.

For students who appreciate the art of the all-American crab cake, **Angelina's**, established in 1952, sells softball-sized crab cakes, in addition to other menu offerings like imperial flounder, scallops, and delicious Italian dishes such as shrimp marinara and shrimp alfredo.

"**Angelina's** is known across the Baltimore Metropolitan area for its crab cakes," said waitress Presa Hanna.

"**Angelina's** crab cakes are number one because they are made of 100 percent American Blue Crab meat from Maryland, Texas and Louisiana." Once you try the crab cakes here, you'll have to agree — with little filler and lots of meat, you're guaranteed to be impressed.

— Christopher M. Sacchetti

Best Coffee

Fell's Point Daily Grind

1726 Thames St.
(410) 558-0399

The staple of any Hopkins student's diet is, of course, coffee. For some, a cup of joe is just a cup of joe. The true coffee connoisseur, however, will hunt far and wide for spectacular brew. If your passion for coffee supersedes your need for convenience, make your way to the **Fell's Point Daily Grind**.

The Daily Grind brews several different blends each day, and its beans are roasted nearby in Canton's Broom Factory. The coffee is fresh and delicious — strong but not bitter, with distinctive flavors and a smooth, full-bodied taste.

Any coffeehouse patron would tell you that atmosphere can make or break your coffee drinking experience. The Daily Grind displays work by local artists and has outdoor tables with great views of the water — the ambience, and the brew, is a coffee lover's dream.

— Julianna Finelli



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

True coffee connoisseurs will be impressed with the selection of flavors and blends at the Fell's Point Daily Grind.

Best Bagel

Greg's Bagels

519 E. Belvedere Ave.
(410) 323-9463

Where else can you get a bagel smothered in Champagne Marmalade, or choose from 16 varieties of lox? **Greg's Bagels**, started by a Hopkins alum, boasts not only the best tasting bagels in Baltimore, but also the widest array of toppings.

Located in the upscale Belvedere Square stores, just off York Road, Greg's boasts eclectic but friendly decor.

However, don't be intimidated by the decor or the chaotic menu — upon arrival, you are greeted by friendly staff who smile as you ponder whether to have your bagel spread with white chocolate cream cheese or honey butter.

You might even catch a glimpse of Greg himself, a man with scraggly gray hair who looks more like a physics professor than a businessman.

The bagels, which range from 60-80 cents without toppings, are pretty much your standard fare, and although there aren't as many choices of bagels as there are toppings, the taste more than makes up for the slim selection.

The chocolate chip bagels, a popular favorite, include huge hunks of both milk and dark chocolate, and daily specials often incorporate sea-

sonal ingredients. Other draws include dessert bagels, a substantial selection of vegetarian bagel sandwiches, and, if you're not in the mood for bagels, potato pancakes and malted milkshakes. If you're a fan of salmon, you just have to decide from which part of the world you want yours — Alaska, Ireland, Chile and more.

— Marissa Lowman

Best Guilty Pleasure

Angelo's Giant Slice of Pizza

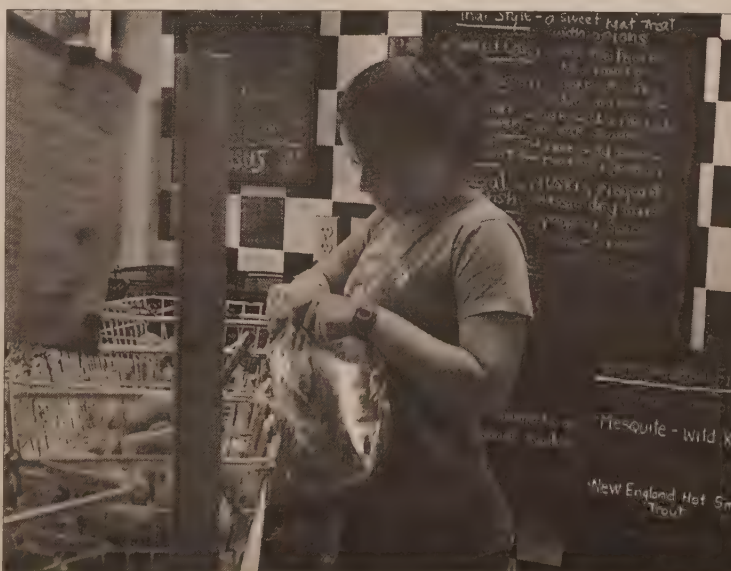
3600 Keswick Road
(410) 235-2595

Sometimes the guiltiest pleasures involve sheer quantity, and **Angelo's Pizza** in Hampden has quantity down to a shameless art. After all, the shop, run

by a man whose last name is Pizza (no joke!), boasts of carrying the "world's largest slice." For less than \$5, you can purchase a slice of pizza the approximate size of a decent cowboy hat, with additional costs for toppings. There's only one word for this kind of food experience, and it's "imposing." But if you grit your teeth and get down to business, you'll find a paper-thin crust covered with aromatic toppings, ranging from mushrooms to sliced sausage, all oozing in enough grease to stiffen your arteries on the spot.

However, the pleasure part of this guilt-inducing treat is equal parts taste and experience. By the time you get to the last of the crust (itself about the size of a good hunk of bread), you're not just feeling extremely full—you're feeling accomplished. Although the giant slices are well known, a more careful look at the Angelo's menu will reveal an even bigger world of guilty delights. Their Philly cheesesteak sandwich, for instance, packs a hearty, satisfying punch, and comes on toasted, crusty bread that will hold up to the most condiment-happy customers. And if you've really decided to throw away cardiac health for the day, there's the big plate of gravy fries—a fortress of fried potatoes drowned in brown gravy, served piping hot on a paper plate.

— Xiao-Bo Yuan



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

A Hopkins grad founded Greg's Bagels, which is why they are the best.

Best Breakfast

Pete's Grille

3130 Greenmount Ave.
(410) 467-7698

Finding the best breakfast in Baltimore required extensive research: hours passed eating omelets, ordering toast, weighing waffles, and pouring reagents on pancakes.

When the dust settled, there were many fine contenders deserving the nod, including Hampden's Golden West Café, for its commendable devotion to butter, and Gertrude's at the BMA, for its strategy of putting crab meat in just about everything. But in the end, old favorite and Baltimore legend **Pete's Grille** easily trumped the competition. From the awe-inspiring pancakes and waffles to the delicious omelets, the breakfasts are simply unbeatable. Add on extremely friendly service, equally good lunch options and the fact that it accepts J-CASH, and Pete's Grille is the place to beat. We may wish that it was open longer, or offered more seating, or decided to move and setup shop in Terrace as part of a revamped meal plan, but for now, the walk to Greenmount is worth every step.

— Jed Borod



Pete's Grille is a great place for breakfast and you might catch a glimpse of local celebrity Michael Phelps.

ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Best Overall Night Out

Pazo

1425 Aliceanna St.
(410) 534-7296

As soon as you walk through the glass doors of **Pazo**, you'll probably want to walk back out the door just to make sure you're really still in Baltimore. A venue unlike any other in the city, Pazo is a restaurant/bar/night club/lounge that would seem more at home on the Sunset Strip or the Upper West Side than in Fell's Point. The latest venture from Chef Cindy Wolf features a two-story space that is instantly impressive. From the marble bar to the open kitchen to the plush seating to the iron chandeliers, Pazo definitely establishes itself as a scene in every sense. But the restaurant has more than just looks going for it. The menu has several tapas style dishes, featuring endless combinations and opportunities to share. With nearly 100 selections of wines in their cellar and a menu of foreign cheeses, a night out at Pazo promises a sophisticated experience, something in which most college students don't often indulge.

Bear in mind that Pazo has just recently opened, and the place often finds itself at capacity. Making a reservation is always a good idea unless you want to be turned away at the restaurant's velvet rope. Who would have thought, a velvet rope in Baltimore?

— Maany Peyvan

Best Brunch

4 West

4 W. University Pkwy.
(410) 235-8200

4 West (formerly Polo Grille), the restaurant located in the Doubletree Inn at the Colonnade, hosts a delicious and indulgent Sunday brunch. Although the prices are not cheap, it is well worth every penny to enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet of shrimp, cheeses,

deserts and, the best part, raw oysters. An endless supply of raw oysters is no small feat, so eat as many as possible — they are expensive. In addition, the staff will bring you whatever your heart desires from the chef, and while waiting, you can pig out on the buffet. The variety of breakfast foods ranges from simple brunch staples like bacon and eggs to decadent eggs benedict with smoked salmon. For those Sunday brunchers over 21, there are also endless refills on mimosas.

— Kat Brewer



Great food and an endless supply of mimosas, the perfect Sunday brunch.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Best Diner

Valentino's

6637 Harford Rd.
Parkville, MD
(410) 254-4700

There is no better restaurant than a New-York-style-Greek-diner. At Valentino's Restaurant on Harford Road, a large case of cakes and pies greets you as you enter the 24-hour establishment. The waiters wear bow ties, and the place mats are the disposable paper kind, plastered with ads for other businesses. The menu is probably the best thing they have to offer, as it is so large that there's sure to be something for everyone. In the mood for breakfast? Served all day. Want a hamburger? Chicken teriyaki? Crabcakes? This is the type of place where if you don't find what you want on the menu, they will make it for you. For the true diner experience, sit in one of the big plush booths and enjoy the classic ambiance: the walls are covered in photographs from the films of silent film star Rudolph Valentino, plants hang from the ceiling and pop music softly plays in the background. At 3 p.m. or 3 a.m., Valentino's is always ready to serve you any and every type of food.

—Sarah Rivard

Best Sandwich

Stone Mill Bakery

Greenspring Station
10751 Falls Rd.
Lutherville, MD
(410) 821-1358

In its heyday, Stone Mill Bakery offered delectable sandwiches and soups to a Hopkins community deserving a break from the tired routine of Sodexo and UniMini. Located just five minutes north of campus on tree-lined Roland Park Drive, Stone Mill was always worth the trip. But early last year, the bakery's Roland Park location was seriously damaged in a fire and it seemed that Stone Mill might be out of the Hopkins scene forever. Today, the only nearby Stone Mill is fifteen minutes away from campus, but it retains the addictive food of the old location and definitely merits the drive. Smartly designed with decor resembling a Mondrian painting, Stone Mill's cachet derives in large part from its crisp atmosphere and its ambitious sandwich selections. The melted brie with apples, honey and almonds is excellent, as is the portobello mushroom sandwich with red peppers and mozzarella. But even more surprising is the



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Stone Mill Bakery is fifteen minutes from JHU, but it's worth the journey.

justice Stone Mill does to traditional favorites. The tuna salad is fantastic and old fashioned house roasted fresh turkey breast is succulent. Stone Mill's soups are similarly impressive, particularly the asparagus and the classic no-fat vegetable soup. The only problem is that we're not the only ones who love

Stone Mill. Weekday lunchtime eating — especially in the winter — is risky unless you enjoy the art of table stalking.

The best bet is to avoid the midday rush and enjoy Stone Mill when you're not fighting for a spot to eat.

— Eric Ridge

Best Coffee Shop

Red Emma's Bookstore and Coffee house

800 St. Paul St.
(410) 230-0450

In a world with a Starbucks on every corner, Red Emma's Bookstore and Coffee shop in Mt. Vernon is a breath of fresh, caffeinated air. That's right, this is one coffee shop that actually has some character. As befitting its unapologetically leftist name, Red Emma's is staffed by a group of volunteers, with the mission of one day becoming a full-fledged workers' collective.

In fact, the recently-opened shop replaced the defunct Black Planet Books, a long-standing radical bookstore in Baltimore. And while Red Emma's is still a bookstore active in hosting readings by radical authors, it also makes for an alternative take on mainstream coffee shops.

For anyone who has ever bemoaned a cup of Joe for its lack of anarchist values, it's heaven on earth. Part of Red Emma's strange charm lies in its spare and almost careless decor; it's clear that the renovations are still a work in progress, as the shop itself has a slight hole-in-the-wall feeling.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Join the Revolution at Red Emma's or just grab a cup a' joe. At any rate, the atmosphere here won't be beat.

The bookstore and coffee shop are combined in a long rectangular space, and customers order beverages at the bar or browse literature near the windows.

Yet despite its plainness or perhaps because of it, Red Emma's cultivates an interestingly raw atmosphere stimulated by an organic blend of politics and a coffee (fair trade, of course).

Even if you're not interested in joining the Revolution, Red Emma's provides an experience not to be had anywhere else in Charm City.

— Xiao-Bo Yuan

Best Vegetarian Restaurant

One World Café

100 W. University Blvd.
(410) 235-5777

Okay, vegetarians, I know that Terrace and Woman don't treat you well. I've seen friends painstakingly build meals out of glutinous, starchy pasta and soggy grapes, and my heart goes out to them.

Thankfully, one of the best, and most affordable, eateries for vegetarians in Baltimore is right on our doorstep. With its uber-convenient spot on W. University Parkway, **One World Café** offers healthy vegetarian and vegan dishes, as well as a tasteful hipster atmosphere (stop by on a busy night, and you'll swear you've never seen as many chunky bangs and horn-rimmed glasses). Take care not to trip over all the grad students frowning over your papers, and you should have a good time. But One World's charm isn't all style and no substance.

The menu features the usual vegetarian favorites, like veggie burgers and grilled cheese sandwiches, but also manages to throw in a few slightly eccentric winners, like the eggplant gyro and a few truly tantalizing tofu dishes. Even if the thought of chewing on bean curd fails to excite you, it's hard not to be won over by the flavors of the Tandori tofu or breakfast tofu scramble.

One World also offers half-off enchiladas every Tuesday. For less than \$4, they'll plunk down a large plate of slightly crisped tortilla enveloping a rich mix of black beans, onions, tomatoes, and cheeses, a meal that's almost as easy on the wallet as it is on animal fat.

—Xiao-Bo Yuan

Best Chain Restaurant

The Cheesecake Factory

201 E. Pratt St.
(410) 234-3990

Diners usually enter the **Cheesecake Factory** in the Inner Harbor assuming that there will be a line out the door and that the cheesecake's legendary reputation is deserved. On both counts, they're rarely disappointed. Located right on the bay in the Harbor Place complex, in the shadow of Baltimore's World Trade Center, the Cheesecake Factory is both a restaurant and a buffet-style dessert shop.

The dessert shop offers nearly 40 different cheesecakes, ranging from standard-issue New York style to Kahala



One World Cafe is home to hipsters and awesome, affordable vegetarian food. Oh, and some of your TAs too. ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Cocoa Coffee or Lemon Raspberry Cream. Be prepared to wait though; sometimes the line to order cheesecake can get longer than the line for the actual restaurant. The Factory's menu covers typical fare relatively well; you can get a good cheeseburger or pasta for a decent price (about \$9-10, side dishes included). Chicken dishes are also abundant and varied (chicken piccata and chicken madeira run about \$12).

For the slightly less carnivorous, Cheesecake Factory salads are nothing short of massive.

Though they're on the expensive side, they're well worth it: even the standard house salad comes packed with inch after inch of towering additions. Regardless of your taste, the Cheesecake Factory offers quality and variety at an affordable price — perfect for the starving college student.

—Brendan Schreiber

Best Chain Pizza

California Pizza Kitchen

201 E. Pratt St.
(410) 783-9339

Anyone who has called for delivery at school knows that pizza in Baltimore ranges from subpar to almost inedible (think Terrace, after the pizza has been sitting for a while). However, for the pizza-lovers at

Hopkins, there is hope — **California Pizza Kitchen** (CPK) in the Harborplace at Inner Harbor is a pizza connoisseur's dream come true, offering a variety of delicious pies from the classic Italian style to their own specialties, like the classic barbecue chicken pizza. One thing to know, if you've never been to a CPK before, is that the pizzas are made without any sauce. This might sound impossible, but unless you're a tomato fanatic, you'll quickly learn that it still works.

The prices are reasonable — it cost \$30 for you and a friend — that's two drinks, two single person pies, plus the tip. The service is easily up there with some of the nicer restaurants in the city, and the wait for a table is never too long unless you're with a big group.

Getting to the harbor is easy enough — a \$10 taxi ride at most, so if you're looking for some terrific pizza it's worth the extra bit of cash.

—John Lichtefeld

Best Dessert Shop

Vacarro's

222 Albermarle St.
(410) 685-4905

If you think you've experienced all the great dining that Baltimore

has to offer but have never been to Vacarros for their all-you-can-eat extravaganza on Monday nights, you still have at least one item to check off of your list.

This little dessert shop, which boasts that it has such a good business that it never needs to advertise, is perennially rated one of the best places to grab dessert in the city.

It earns the rating for very good reason. Vacarros is versatile—you can bring a date or your parents for a sugary after-dinner snack—not to mention delicious and reasonably priced.

But even if all-you-can-eat isn't your scene or somehow you miss the Monday melee, stop by for dessert to go. Vacarros' cannolis are amazing and so too is nearly everything else on the menu.

And even if you aren't in Little Italy, you can still feed the habit.

In recent years, Vacarros has opened several additional locations, including one as far away as Washington, DC. Try not to get too excited though—some of these locations are mall kiosks or very small stores.

For that reason, we still will recommend visiting the Little Italy location.

But we understand: when the cannoli habit calls, the safest thing that to do is get to the closest Vacarros and submit to the craving.

—Eric Ridge

Best Hamburger

Mick O'Shea's

328 N. Charles St.
(410) 539-7504

I learned very quickly that Baltimore was not Los Angeles. If the temperature wasn't a clear enough indicator, the absolute lack of a decent burger was a telling sign. If you ask any Angeleno about burgers, they'll bore you with tales of In 'N' Out, Fatburger, Tommy's or Tops. Try that question in Bawlmer' and you'll just get blank stares.

So in a city that's a fast food ghost town, you have to look to the bars for a decent burger. And the O'Shea burger at Mick O'Shea's Irish Pub is hard to beat. Just south of Mount Vernon on Charles Street, Mick O'Shea's offers an amazing deal every Monday from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m.: a burger, fries and a pint for \$5.99. This would be fantastic, even if the burger were awful, which it certainly isn't. The half-pound patty sits nicely on a spongy bun and, when ordered medium rare, is both filling and flavorful at the same time. The crispy, seasoned fries are quite a treat too. Sure, it's not exactly fast food, but cheap, good food will have to do.

— Maany Peyvan

Best Hot Dog

IKEA

106 W. Saratoga St.
(410) 727-9522

In a city fascinated with Esskay, producers of flavorless franks that populate every local sporting event, finding a good hot dog can be tough. That special combination of a chewy bun, rich meaty dog and the right toppings is a difficult equation to balance. But just like in high-school chemistry, balance this equation we must.

Against all odds, against the Dog House and the stands that sit outside the hospitals, in comes Ikea. The Swedish furniture giant also happens to serve the best, cheapest dog in Baltimore. For 75 cents, shoppers can get a freshly cooked, all-beef hot dog, served on a warm bun.

Toppings are limited to ketchup, mustard relish and onions, but at this price and quality, who cares? You can afford to top it with three other hot dogs!

Also take some time to explore the small Swedish food market by the stand. You can wash down that wiener with a bottle of Kristall. No, not the champagne featured in rap videos, the pear flavored carbonated beverage that brings no end of smiles to Swedes. Next time you're buying a Malm bed or a Tünheim bookcase, be sure to pick up some tasty Füd.

— Maany Peyvan

Best Chef

Cindy Wolf

For more than 10 years, Cindy Wolf has been reinventing cuisine for a city once starving for something new in gourmet. To the delight of diners everywhere, Wolf also continues to reinvent herself, continually taking Baltimore cuisine to new levels. But the culinary arts haven't always been on the horizon for our 2005 Best Chef. It took a series of fortunate circumstances for Wolf to realize her talent and aspirations. As a college student, Wolf was interested in business management, but decided after a year that it wasn't for her. She moved to Charleston, S.C., where her parents had recently relocated. There, she landed an apprenticeship at Silks, a popular local restaurant.

"It was a really fortunate opportunity," Wolf explains. "I worked with really talented people, at just about every station in the kitchen."

And while she was honored to later receive an offer from Silks for a full-time chef position, she turned it down, going on to attend the Culinary Institute of America in New York, where she graduated in 1987. She then worked as a chef for several prominent restaurants in Charleston and Washington, D.C. There, at the restaurant company where she worked, she met her future husband, Tony Foreman. After the two were married in 1993, they decided that they wanted to open their own restaurant. "Where we both really wanted to go at the time was California," Wolf explains. "But it was too far away from our families."

Because both Wolf and Foreman were familiar with the area, and the restaurant market in the city was thinner at the time, Charm City was their choice. Our palates will be forever grateful.

In 1995, Wolf and Foreman opened Savannah in Fell's Point, which became recognized as one of Baltimore's best restaurants. The restaurant, specializing in Wolf's own blend of French and Southern cuisine, later moved to a new and larger location in Harbor East and was renamed The Charleston. Regarded as the pinnacle of cuisine in Baltimore, the restaurant has received rave reviews and awards from such heavy-hitters as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Zagat's* and *Gourmet Magazine*. But the countless accolades that the restaurants earned with Wolf as chef and Foreman as sommelier and manager weren't enough. The couple opened Roland Park's now acclaimed Petit Louis in 2000, offering some of the best French cuisine in the area. Their latest venture, Pazo, specializing in Mediterranean tapas, opened less than two months ago in Fells Point. To no one's surprise, the luxurious and spacious restaurant is already attracting plenty of attention.

If we had an award for Best Juggler in Baltimore, Wolf would most likely be the recipient as well. Somehow, owning and operating three successful restaurants at the same time is feasible in her world. Still, she admits that it's no cakewalk. "Any management position in a restaurant is more than a full-time job," Wolf says. "When you have two or three, you can imagine what it does to your schedule."

Yet despite her expertise in several types of cooking, Wolf has kept Southern cuisine as her main interest. "My heart and soul is in The Charleston," Wolf says. "I play here and coach at [the other restaurants]."

Regardless of where Cindy Wolf is, her name has become a trademark of quality in gourmet cuisine. From Roland Park to Fell's Point, our tastebuds can't get enough.

— Jeff Katzenstein



COURTESY OF THE CHARLESTON GROUP

Cindy Wolf, the best for innovative cuisine in Baltimore.

Best Large Concert Venue

Pier 6 Concert Pavilion

731 Eastern Ave.
(410) 481-SEAT

One might say that the Charles Street corridor is known more for its small concert venues. The Recher Theatre in Towson and the Ottobar just a few blocks down the road from Homewood are two of the many local establishments that cater to the average cash-starved undergrad of somewhat questionable taste in music. Though they draw far greater numbers, the large concert venues often get less recognition among Hopkins students.

First Mariner Arena, for instance, is perhaps Baltimore's juggernaut, hosting big names like U2 and the Eagles. Halfway to Washington, D.C., the likes of Aerosmith and R.E.M. gather at Merriweather Post Pavilion among 40 acres of preserved deciduous forest.

There is, however, a lesser-known venue where anyone from Coldplay to Lil' Bow Wow can be found. **Pier 6 Concert Pavilion**, situated amidst the lapping waves of the Inner Harbor, combines the indoor feel of First Mariner Arena and the outdoor ambiance of Merriweather, providing a truly unique experience. With Fells Point only blocks away, this hybrid half-grassy knoll, half-seated amphitheater has accommodated such big-names as Live, Ben Folds Five, and Crosby, Stills & Nash, as well as smaller acts like Rufus Wainwright and Jimmie's Chicken Shack.

Though Pier 6's repertoire tends to cater to a certain breed of, well, white teenagers, its location is unparalleled and its atmosphere enchanting. Only at Pier 6 can concertgoers watch the sun set beyond the Chesapeake Bay to the sound of good music.

— Brendan Schreiber

Best Punk Venue

The Sidebar Tavern

218 E. Lexington Ave.
(410) 659-4130

Did you catch the [expletive deleted] You All show? How about the Filthy Rotten Sex Machines opening for The Saviours? No? **The Sidebar Tavern**, hidden downtown on 218 E. Lexington Ave., hosts obscure bands in a venue that makes an AMR double look palatial. If a group you like does swing through, the intimate setting makes for the best show you'll see in your time at Hopkins. And before you graduate, check out Kamp Kamikaze, where \$5 gets you three hours of all-you-can-drink PBR. When you're done, stagger outside and wait for a cab



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

The Ottobar is a great place to see hip hop and it's awfully close to campus.

in one of the 24-hour bail bonds offices that line the street. Now that's punk.

— Jed Borod

Best Indie Venue

The Talking Head

203 E. Davis St.
(410) 961-5588

If your tastes run more to sweaters than to safety pins, **The Talking Head** has your indie rocks needs covered and ups the venue size from dorm room to spacious living room. The venue offers a great lineup, with recent visits from D.C. hero Travis Morrison, the Wrens, and local favorites The Oranges Band. The Talking Head also provides vintage arcade games, two bars and the chance to meet lots of people who don't go to Hopkins. If you like to dance, the Taxi-dermy Lounge dance parties offer an excellent alternative to the Ottobar's increasingly anemic Britpop dance nights, where the DJs seem to have discovered that Guster hails from the UK.

— Jed Borod

Best Hip Hop Venue

The Ottobar

2540 North Howard St.
(410) 662-0669

For hip-hop shows in Baltimore, there is only one real venue: **The Ottobar**. True, it's not in the best part of town, so it's not advisable to go to these shows alone at night, but once you are safely there it is more than worth it. Plus, it's a mere shuttle ride

away, so you can get there and back for free, without a problem. The small club is almost always packed for the good shows, but it's still easy to get up to the front of the stage to slap hands or exchange words with your favorite artists. Of course, its size means that it doesn't pull in big names like 50 Cent or Fabolous, but The Ottobar has had the more important — and arguably better — artists like Hieroglyphics, Atmosphere, Slick Rick and nearly every artist on the Def Jux label. If you really like hip-hop, there's a good chance you will see at least a few names you recognize come on a monthly basis.

— John Lichtefeld

Best Baltimore Band

Battersea

While some may question whether six months is enough time to form anything substantial, especially something warranting the title of best, the five local Baltimore artists that comprise the band **Battersea** have done it. Sean Graham (guitar), Paul Gier (bass), Jesse Lyell (vocals), Nathan Lyttle (guitar) and Jeff Martin (drums) more than hold their own against more seasoned veterans of the Baltimore rock scene like Two if by Sea and The Oranges Band. While the latter bands have years of history and numerous albums, Battersea, with less than a dozen shows to its name, has amassed a dedicated following that grows with every performance. Each member draws from their musical expertise to produce a sound that is both fluid and eclectic. Their self-described "dark dance songs," have stolen shows, won over the most skeptical critics and converted

at least one diehard Destiny's Child fan. Battersea may not have the long history of other local bands, but it definitely has the most promising future.

— Alex Begley

Best Disc Jockey

DJ Cullen Stalin

Regardless of what some of the parties around campus may lead you to believe, it takes more to be a DJ than simply clicking random and play on your Winamp playlist. A good DJ can provide choice music to get some people dancing, but an even better DJ can provide a little something for everyone. Look no further than **DJ Cullen Stalin**, one of the main fixtures of Sonar's Friday night lineup, as well as the Talking Head's Monday night Taxi-dermy Dance Lounge.

He has a tendency for 80s cheesy-synth choices, cross-faded into some of the more bouncing songs in the genre of hip-hop, spilling over to current indie distortions of new-wave genres. What are the chances of hearing Cyndi Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" right after Naughty by Nature's "O.P.P." within the dim, black-lit confines of a Charles Village row house? Slim at best, so quit your procrastination, get out your best dancing shoes and groove hard to the sounds of DJ Cullen Stalin spinning the night away.

— William Parschalk

Best Electronica Venue

Sonar

407 East Saratoga St.
(410) 327-8333

There are many things that make a club great; variety of music, atmosphere, and crowd draw just to name a few. When it comes down to it, with the exception of location, the one individual in a club who controls all of the elements is the DJ. In Baltimore the club with the greatest DJs is the **Sonar Lounge**.

The venue has a great set-up with multiple rooms that facilitate all sorts of people and genres of music and over 3500 sq. feet of dance floor. Saratoga Street, the club isn't too hard to find and in one of the safer areas of town. As for the great DJs, LTJ Bukem, Adam F, and Baltimore's own Scott Henry have all been known to work the boards here. This is not a club to get "crunk" in, but for clubbers looking for house, trance, and drum n bass (and don't feel like driving to D.C.) Sonar is the premier venue in the area.

— John Lichtefeld



Best Dance Club

Sonar

407 East Saratoga St.
(410) 327-8333

Housed in a warehouse in downtown Baltimore, **Sonar** is a hot new 18 and up club that settled into its location in October of 2002. Whenever you want to go dancing with your friends to show off your moves and let off a little steam, this is the place to go.

The club is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. DJs spin a variety of new and old music in two separate dance rooms. Regardless of your tastes, you'll find something here to enjoy because a different kind of music is set for every night including house, rock, industrial, drum n bass, indie and hip hop.

This is definitely the kind of club where people want to shake what their mommas gave them, but when you need to rest your feet for a minute, you can cool off and relax on the couches in the lounge, where you can also play pool. For those of you with cars, there's a free parking lot available right across the street. Otherwise, it's just a short cab ride to get there.

In addition to the dance club section, a warehouse garage-turned-concert hall opened in 2004 and has already hosted performances by renowned hip hop artists Mos Def and Talib Kweli. Other events held in the hall include a Hip Hop Battle of the Bands, a Le Tigre concert and a farewell tour concert for Dubtrix.

—Jan Lee

Best Comedy Club

Baltimore Comedy Factory

Pratt and Light Streets
(410) 547-7798

Baltimore doesn't have much in terms of comedy clubs — most comics bypass The City That Reads for nearby D.C. Still, that doesn't mean a night at the **Baltimore Comedy Factory** won't leave you rolling on the floor.

While most comedians who perform at the Comedy Factory are up-and-coming entertainers, the club's past performers are a testament to its quality. Before they made it big, comics such as Dave Chappelle, Lewis Black and Chris Rock performed in the club's tiny theatre. Each show includes a 10-minute MC routine, followed by a 20-minute feature act and a 40-minute headliner show. Most headliners have sharpened their comic teeth on shows such as Comedy Central's Premium Blend and Last Comic Standing.

The atmosphere at the Comedy Factory certainly isn't lavish—folding

tables surround a small stage with a simple microphone. Some comedians even enjoy poking fun at the lack of décor. Still, you'll probably be there for the laughs more than the furnishings.

The club, located above Burke's Restaurant and Café on Light and Pratt Streets, offers shows on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Tickets are generally \$15 (cheaper than other comedy clubs in Baltimore), and there is a two drink minimum—so expect to pay around \$25 with cab fare. Considering you'd pay that much at a dance club, and won't get groped by some fat drunk guy while watching standup, it's a pretty nice option.

—Jeff Katzenstein

Best Movie Theater

Senator Theatre

5904 York Rd.
(410) 435-8338

The **Senator Theatre** isn't your average multiplex. Built in 1939, the theater evokes a sense of classic charm reminiscent of a time when moviegoers watched the acting greats on a black and white screen.

Sink into a comfortable, plush seat and take in the incredibly large, wide screen, which seems like it runs from the very top of the ceiling to the floor. The acoustics are perfect, and the

ambiance is pleasant. Not only are you comfortable as you watch, but the interior of the theater is beautiful to look at.

You don't feel like you've entered the local teen hangout, so it's a great place to bring that special someone without being surrounded by groups of giggling kids.

Another perk is that the Senator is not off in some remote location — there are tons of restaurants and shops near the theater at Belvedere Square. If you are a fan of Chinese food followed by a flick, Café Zen is right around the corner.

The Senator not only promises a comfortable viewing experience, but a guarantee that you will be completely absorbed by the movie.

—Jess Youdin

Best Video Rental

Video Americain

3100 Saint Paul St.
(410) 889-5266

Tucked away in a small basement on St. Paul Street, **Video Americain** is a Charles Village gem. With only six stores — three in Maryland, two in D.C. and two in Delaware — Video Americain is a far cry from megachains like Blockbuster and Hollywood Video.

And that's a good thing.

These guys know the true meaning of the word 'classic' — the store's 'Required Viewing' section features films like Nichol's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf*, Orson Welles' *The Magnificent Ambersons*, Hitchcock's *Life Boat* and Herzog's *Aguirre: The Wrath of God*. The employees — all of whom are veritable film buffs — help stock a 'House Favorites' section, and are always ready and willing to make recommendations.

With an ample assortment of foreign flicks and hard-to-find independent films, the store caters to students with film-viewing assignments for class.

This is the place to go for cult classics, Sundance favorites or gay and lesbian-themed films. The best thing about Video Americain is that for all their film expertise, the staff is not unapproachable or patronizing.

Any average movie watcher could pick up *Gigli* without fear of reproach (although it might be gathering dust at the bottom of the shelf).

Though best known for their hard-to-find flicks, Video Americain also stocks new releases and Hollywood blockbusters.

There's a little something for every movie taste in this deceptively undersized shop, and its convenient location is tough to beat.

—Julianne Finelli



Senior Elissa Weissman searches for a movie at Video Americain, which is hidden in a St. Paul Street basement.

Best Art Museum

American Museum Of Visionary Art

800 Key Highway
(410) 547-1900

The American Visionary Art Museum manages to trump other art museums in Baltimore with its sheer style. Treat yourself to a glimpse of the four-story main building, located at the base of Federal Hill, and it becomes immediately apparent that the AVAM isn't a stuffy exhibition hall. Combining an elliptical design with a glass-mosaic surface, the building itself is worth the \$7 admission for students.

Inside, the AVAM features primarily outsider art, made by self-taught individuals who often work outside the traditional art world. Instead of Matisse and Monet, you'll find exhibitions by ordinary people with extraordinary visions. Aesthetically, the AVAM seems to embrace a high-color, high-drama ethos, featuring paintings and sculptures exploding with dynamism, energy and, yes, fun.

The current "Holy H20: Fluid Universe" collection, for example, is filled with fanciful images of mermaids and sea creatures, and the display of sacred Haitian flags provides the kind of sequined dazzle you're not likely to encounter outside of a Las Vegas strip show. Not only is the AVAM one of the rare art galleries with a pervasive sense of humor, it also gives the occasional nod to local culture. Step inside the museum's sculpture barn, for instance, and you won't find any elegant marble busts. Instead, a giant sculpture of John Waters' Divine stands, even bigger than in celluloid life. What could be more Baltimore than that?

— Xiao-Bo Yuan

Best Museum

The Walters Art Museum

600 N. Charles St.
(410) 547-9000

The Walters Art Museum, located right next to the Washington Monument in one of the loveliest parts of Baltimore, stands ahead of other museums in the area with its interesting and unique exhibits.

Between Jan. 23 and May 1, the Walters will have an exhibit on the early history of the Bible, including a leaf from the Gutenberg Bible and several 17th century manuscripts. The Walters also has an exhibit on the art of India, Nepal and Tibet, complete with beautiful sculptures from the ninth and eleventh centuries. Two other key exhibits are the recently updated collection of 19th century art and a room of prints from the French Revolution.

The Walters building itself is perfect for a museum, with plenty of sky windows for maximum natural light and a clean décor that is not overdone. The museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on the second Friday of each month, when it stays open until 10 p.m. Take advantage of the extended Friday hours by following your museum visit with a dinner in the Mount Vernon area. It's a cheap yet impressive place to take a date or to gather a few friends together for an extra dose of culture — admission is \$6 for students with a J-CARD.

— Katherine Brewer

Best Cheap Date

The Avenue / American Visionary Arts Museum

36th Street Hampden/800 Key Highway
(410) 547-1900

Sorry to be the bearer of old news, but dinner at the Cheesecake Factory and a scenic stroll by the tourist sewer known as the Inner Harbor no longer cuts it. Make your next date stylishly lo-fi, and your starry-eyed companion will think you're non-materialistic and romantic instead of cheap or broke.

If it's cold out, spike some hot apple cider with a little discount rum and cinnamon, pour into thermoses, and take the Hopkins shuttle (or walk — it's not that far) to **The Avenue** (West 36th Street) in Hampden. There, you and your lovely can try on vintage threads at Galvanize or Fat Elvis, flip through indie comics and hip magazines at Atomic Books, check out some cool arts and crafts at the Mud and Metal gallery/store and grab Berger cookies at the most luxurious Royal Farms in all of Baltimore (two floors! sit-down eating!).

Schedule for a Saturday so that you can do \$1 Night at Mamie's Café, where you can build a meal with different à la carte items that all cost — you guessed it — \$1.

If you manage to Casanova your way into a second date, it's time to step it up, but don't freak; it's still under \$20. Grab the city bus to the Inner Harbor. Don't worry — you're just cutting through. Walk as fast as you can to the Key Highway side and go the **American Visionary Arts Museum**, where the art will have your date wondering what he/she did to deserve an afternoon with someone as special and smart as your fly self. And, bonus — it's only \$7 for students, so your J-CARD will finally be good for something besides printing things and getting food poisoning.

— Maha Jafri

Best Expensive Date Restaurant: He Said

Peter's Inn (Fell's Point)

504 S. Ann St.
(410) 675-1313

The last time I took a girl on an expensive date, it was Valentine's Day 2004, and the night was just right for romance. I drove her to **Peter's Inn**, on the corner of Ann Street and Eastern Avenue, in my tricked-out Previa mini-van, then kicked her out while I parked and chain-smoked a few Parli's where she couldn't see me and disapprove.

It was a step up from the expensive date before that, which involved a 12-pack of Pabst, six Hot Pockets and an old VHS tape of *Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken*.

For real, though, the night and the cuisine were fantastic. Peter's

does not accept reservations, so we sat at the bar for about 40 minutes, sipping red wine and nibbling at the bowls of Swedish fish that were placed sporadically along the bar.

When we were finally seated, I had some delicious jumbo prawns stuffed with crab meat, and my girl burned me and got the prime rib.

The menu at Peter's Inn changes nightly, or every few days, depending on what's fresh from the sea and on the whims and various gastronomical inventions of chef Karen Fuller.

Excellent meat and vegetarian dishes are also available. The wine was perfect and relatively cheap (especially on the half-price wine Wednesdays).

— Robbie Whelan

Best Expensive Date Restaurant: She Said

Maison Marconi

106 W. Saratoga St.
(410) 727-9522

Surrounding it with red ink hearts, my then-boyfriend scribbled "Gets swept off feet," in my calendar the night he reserved a table at **Maison Marconi**.

As much as he was a romantic, I fell in love with a restaurant that night.

Maison Marconi drips with romance, not only a champagne-and-red roses romance, but the romance of Baltimore in its belle époque.

Established in 1920, this long since converted row house on Saratoga Street stands alone and has kept its quiet façade of an elegant row house.

For more than 80 years, I imagine walking in the restaurant must have been the same experience: the dark wood walls beckon you in the small entry way; an elderly French waiter takes you to your seat in the enveloping dining room; you tuck in your freshly starched linen napkin and prepare for some of the city of Baltimore's finest.

It is no surprise that the restaurant is said to have been a favorite haunt of H.L. Mencken and John Steinbeck — merely the setting seems to inspire lengthy intellectual conversations, as well as adoring glances.

The menu is classically continental, but ignore all the prices and order the crab cakes.

Where they are typically fried cakes of mayonnaise and processed crab paste, at Marconi the cakes were chunks of tender meat surrounded by a handmade herb mayonnaise.

To me, that is love.

In fact, any love on that particular Valentine's Day was at least equally divided between the atmosphere, the culinary experience, and my date.

— Francesca Hansen



TURSINA ABDUL RASHID/NEWS-LETTER

The Walters' Art Museum is a perfect destination in lovely Mount Vernon.

Best Beer

Resurrection Ale (Brewer's Art)

1106 N. Charles St.
(410) 547-6925

Back in the day, high-gravity "ice" beers were the thing to drink. At a high-school rager, why drink Beast, which is abhorrent to begin with, when you could get drunker off of an equal amount of Beast Ice?

The thing about **Resurrection Ale** from the Brewer's Art, our pick for Best Beer of Baltimore, is that it has enough octane to tip you over (7% and above — it varies with each batch), but it's still the taste that knocks you off your feet. Resurrection is a Belgian-style barley malt with a thick, fruity taste. It's a far cry from a light beer, and a few mugs will fill you up like dinner. The best situation for drinking Resurrection Ale is, without a doubt, in one of the catacomb-style make-out alcoves in the basement of the Brewer's Art, at happy hour, when they serve drafts of it in over-sized brandy tumblers for about \$2 a piece.

Once I went to work as a hall monitor after a few rounds with the resurrected — not the most responsible of moves. But hey, it's better than shotgunning a few cans of Bud Ice. A heck of a lot better.

— Robbie Whelan

Best Happy Hour

Brewer's Art

1106 N. Charles St.
(410) 547-6925

Happy Hour has different meanings for different people — for the over-worked average Joe, it means unloading and throwing a few back. For the hopeful, young single, it means a chance to meet potential dates. For the college student, it means cheap beer.

At **Brewer's Art**, you don't have to sacrifice quality beer for cheap prices. Brewer's Art has the best home brews — and they're a dirt cheap \$2 between 4-7 p.m. on weekdays. Ozzy is the Brewer's Art version of the Belgian devil beers (Lucifer, Duvel, etc.). Resurrection is a strong Abbey-style dubbel, and Proletary Ale is black and smooth. There are always a couple of seasonal brews as well, and a selection of over 100 bottled beers from around the world; this pub won't disappoint even the most discerning beer enthusiast. Where else can you throw down a Pilsner Urquell after a Belgian Trappist Ale and follow it with a Moretti La Rossa? Happy hour at Brewer's Art has an atmosphere for everyone: an upscale restaurant upstairs for the dating singles, a comfy, relaxing basement — with great music — for

that average Joe looking to relax, and excellent, affordable beer for the college student. If you've grown weary of watery keg beer, the Brewer's Art happy hour offers a much-needed respite without hurting your wallet.

— Julianna Finelli

Best Sports Venue

Ravens Stadium

1101 Russell St.
(410) 261-RAVE

The Inner Harbor is lucky enough to have two swanky new stadiums — the Orioles' Camden Yards and the **Ravens Stadium**. Camden has the requisite charms and quirks that make any stadium great, including the big wall in right field and a picturesque brick building in the background. But Ravens Stadium has two things Camden certainly does not: Ray Lewis and the electricity he brings to the ballpark. That puts it over the top as Baltimore's best place to watch a ballgame.

The structure itself is modern yet simple, featuring distinctive brick arches and a mix of aluminum and metal trim to complement sprawling glass windows. It passes its aesthetics test with flying colors; pewter is the structure's dominant color. Ravens Stadium is abuzz with excitement before the game even starts, and that enthusiasm boils over into a frenzy when everybody's favorite line-backer emerges from the tunnel and does his patented "Ray Ray" dance. And the Ravens still reserve a large section in the end zone for Baltimore's Marching Ravens, a tradition that is a holdover from the days of Johnny Unitas, whose statue now graces one of the gate's entrances, and the Baltimore Colts. The fans are loyal, they love their team (especially the defense), and they remain loud from start to finish. Orioles games cannot produce that kind of excitement.

— Jon Zimmer

Best Local Athlete

Michael Phelps

Although Michael Phelps has recently been seen in Michigan taking classes and training for the 2008 Olympic Games, he will forever remain suburban Baltimore's beloved son. Indeed, Phelps is the quintessential local athlete — with strong ties to his community, a favorite local restaurant where he does interviews, and a charming "boy next door" quality that is uniquely Baltimore.

Still, this area's prodigy is not perfect. Phelps' recent conviction for driving under the influence of alcohol is a disappointing mark on his previously unblemished record. During an age in

which basketball games sometimes resemble barroom brawls and newspaper sports pages can be mistaken for crime blotters, Phelps seemed to be a cut above the rest — an amateur who always seemed to handle himself like a pro. We hope that he can stay out of trouble from now on so that we can focus on his amazing accomplishments rather than his courtroom appearances. In 2004, he won six gold medals and two bronzes. In 2008, he seems to have a realistic chance of winning eight gold medals and breaking Mark Spitz's Olympic record. In the meantime, we hope that we see him in his favorite restaurant and another Best of Baltimore selection, Pete's Grille, because having two Best of Baltimore winners in the same place does not happen everyday.

— Eric Ridge

Best Baltimorean

John Waters

Maybe it's the fact that he isn't afraid to talk about sex. Maybe it's his ability to get stars to talk about sex.

Whatever it is, this Baltimore native brings national attention to Baltimore in his wildly perverse films that take place in, where else, Baltimore! This past

year he released *A Dirty Shame*, a film about the inhabitants of Harford Road who experience head injuries that lead to an insatiable sex drive. Not only did he get Johnny Knoxville to star as a sex addict, but he got David Hasselhoff of Baywatch fame to agree to being filmed using an airplane lavatory. In his film *Pink Flamingos* he grossed out audiences with a scene in which Divine, a female impersonator, eats dog excrement. All joking aside, John Waters captures the essence of Baltimore's neighborhoods throughout his films, which include *Pecker*, *Cry Baby*, *Serial Mom*, and his biggest hit, *Hairspray*.

Even after making the big time with *Hairspray*, which was converted into a Tony award winning Broadway musical, Waters returned to Baltimore to film more of the city he loves. Some would say his films are too provocative and bring a bad name to Baltimore. But Waters has the ability to capture the worst of Baltimore and turn it into a humorous situation, leaving his audiences proud of the strange and obscure things Baltimore has to offer.

So next time you're shopping at Eddie's, a favorite of Waters', keep your eyes peeled for this Baltimorean dawning his trademark mustache.

— Sarah Rivard

Best College Night

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

1212 Cathedral St.
(410) 783-8000

Did you know that classical music and beer actually do mix? Learn how the two combine and come to a college night at the Meyerhoff. Start the evening off with a concert, most likely featuring the **Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO)** in the spacious performance hall lined with red carpet. Past concerts have included *The Phantom of the Opera Goes Pops!* and *Spanish Sojourn*. Afterwards, you can mingle with other sophisticated college students who like to have fun at the post-concert party. You can also chat with some of the musicians yourself to get to know a little more about ... er, their oboe playing abilities. You can't beat the \$1 beers and free snacks, which include crab dip and pasta salad, not to mention the free prizes. Cocktails are also available if you're into more high class drinking to accompany your night of culture. The BSO hosts college nights four times a year. So if you want to beef up on your music history, need an excuse to dress up, or want to impress your date, come to the next college night on Friday, March 4, which will be featuring Copland and Gershwin music, including Copland's famous *Appalachian Spring* and Gershwin's *Concert in F*. Student tickets are \$10, best seating available.

— Marissa Lowman

Best Liquor Store

Beltway Fine Wine and Spirits

8727 Loch Raven Blvd.
(410) 668-8884

A trip to **Beltway Fine Wine and Spirits** is probably as close as a college student can get to feeling like a kid in a candy store. When you're planning on picking up more than a six-pack for the weekend, or you're looking for great selection and prices, the 20-minute drive to this mecca of alcohol is well worth it. Located just off of route 695 on Loch Raven Boulevard, this place is practically a warehouse of wine, beer and liquor. Looking for every microbrew under the sun? That rare merlot that you just couldn't find at PJ's or Eddie's? Beltway has everything you're looking for and then some.

Plus, there's a walk-in keg refrigerator and a fine selection of cigars and snacks. The extra expense on gas is also negligible considering the prices are lower than most liquor stores in the area—including Well's on York Road. A word of warning, however—Beltway isn't the most forgiving place for underage customers. And no one wants to make a 40-minute trip only to return home empty-handed. If that's not an issue, plan on coming back with more than you can carry. With a selection of 1,000 beers and 8,000 wines, how can you resist?

— Jeff Katzenstein

Best Florist

Super Fresh

1020 W. 41st St.
(410) 243-0001

There are several options available for the Hopkins student in need of a quick apology or pick-me-up for that special someone. At a moment's notice you can make the one-block trip to the 3200 block of Saint Paul Street and make a purchase at one of several flower shops. However, a simple bouquet of roses can put you back over \$50. Save that monumental waste of money for Valentine's Day and spend an extra 10 minutes waiting for the shuttle over to **Super Fresh**. The selection may be limited, and admittedly quite tacky, but 99 percent of the time you'll be able to find flowers that are just as nice as any you'd find at Gordon's Florist or any of the surrounding establishments. A dozen roses with all the trimmings can usually be found for about \$14.99, and sometimes as cheap as \$9.99. So if you're looking to snag that one-and-only girl, let the mindless romantics waste their cash on a "professional" heap of flowers. Take the economical route and hit up the Super Fresh while you stock up on Ramen noodles and hot dogs.

— Brendan Schreiber



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Towson Mall, conveniently close, but also the best for everything you need.

Best Bookstore

Normal's Books and Records

425 E. 31st St.
(410) 243-6888

Feel free to let loose your inner eclectic at **Normal's Books and Records**, but be warned: You might end up spending the whole afternoon there.

Despite the fact that Normal's maintains a low profile on a largely residential area of 31st Street in Waverly, the store is a mecca for bibliophiles, record collectors, and even "normal" college students who just don't want to pay full price for their books. While the subjects of books offered at Normal's—the labels on the shelves range from "Anarchy" to "Zen"—might seem like a Dewey Decimal for the deranged, the store is an excellent place to search for the rare gems not stocked by Barnes & Noble. The store sells DVDs, CDs, LPs, 45s, small press and magazines, and even hosts avant-garde musical performances at the Red Room next door.

Normal's was opened in 1990 by seven friends, and to this day is still collectively owned, allowing it to provide an independent-minded alternative to today's mainstream sources of media.

Just a few blocks away from campus, Normal's esoteric wares should help keep it afloat even after Hopkins' campus bookstore moves into Charles Village.

— Jason Farber

Best Music Store

The Sound Garden

1616 Thames St.
(410) 563-9011

The obvious choice for music stores for Hopkins students without cars is Record and Tape Traders. It is extremely convenient and the used CDs are relatively inexpensive. However, despite all of these advantages, Record and Tape Traders is really just a quick fix to the average music junkie. For those looking for a more complete music shop, all eyes must turn to Fells Point's **The Sound Garden**. The place is packed wall-to-wall with CDs, vinyl and even some cassettes. The prices are all over the map depending on the item, but the great part is you can find nearly anything you want at the shop. The staff is friendly and generally knowledgeable, which really comes in handy if you know a song title but not the band or album name. The Sound Garden isn't the cheapest or most convenient music shop in Baltimore, but its variety and service makes up for it.

— John Lichtefeld

Best Mall

Towson Town Center

825 Dulaney Valley Rd.
(410) 494-8800

Unfortunately, there aren't many options available for students who need to make a stop at the mall. The Towson Town Center, or the Towson

Mall, is the only practical selection—every other mall is too far away. The Town Center however, does contain most anything you'll ever need as a college student. In addition, the nearby Towson Commons movie theater and the Recher Theatre (a local small concert venue) are quite popular among many Hopkins students. Flanked by department stores Nordstrom's and Hecht's on each end of the mall, the Town Center is home to a wide variety of shops. Recent additions include the clothing stores Anthropologie and Hollister. The food court, located in the center of the mall, offers nearly 20 different options, and a Rainforest Café can be found at the northern end. Parking can be tough to find, despite a massive garage, but make sure to keep track of where you park because the mall's terraced design can make your car difficult to find. Overall, the Town Center's key draw is its array of offerings, adding up to nearly 200 stores.

— Brendan Schreiber

Best Grocery Store

Trader Joe's

1 E. Joppa Rd.
(410) 296-9851

"Trader Joe's?" you say. With no baker or butcher? No fish monger? No full service deli? No double coupons? If you're looking for aisles of processed foods, brand name goods and crates of waxy, tasteless produce, then avoid Trader Joe's. But if you're looking to eat well, try new things and stay on a college student's budget, there is no better place than **Trader Joe's**. A Southern California transplant, Trader Joe's was a torchbearer for healthy eating and organic fruits and vegetables. They specialize in bringing unique foreign and specialty products to stores, all at prices that won't break your bank. By selling most of their products on their own private label, TJ's avoids the middlemen importers and packagers who can shoot up prices at other stores (Read: Whole Foods, Whole Foods, Whole Foods).

How TJ's operates is also a big draw. The staff is friendly and informed, constantly trying items and being frank about opinions. The store constantly updates its inventory, releasing new products every week. Try the Trader Giotti brand Gelato that just popped into their frozen food section. And a word on that godsend, the frozen food section. You won't find calorie packed microwave meat loaf here. Try Superfresh for hot pockets. But how about a gorgonzola and goat cheese pizza to go with your red pesto farfalle? Why don't you try a bowl of Chicken Tikka Masala instead of a tin of Chicken pot pie? As a student rushed for time, TJ's allows you to avoid the devil's bargain of sacrificing quality and healthfulness for speed (read: Silk Road, Silk Road, Silk Road).

— Maany Peyvan

Best Haircut

Tricho Studio II

4101 Falls Rd.
(410) 889-7875

Everyone hears the horror stories the very first day of orientation. Some freshman raises his hand and asks his RA, "Where can I get a quick haircut? I heard something about 'Hibachi' or 'Joanie Loves Chachi,' whatever it's called." The color subsequently draws from the RA's face as he calls out in horror, "Oh, God. No! Not Tenpachi! I got my haircut there once last year and I came back looking like an early-80s Michael Jackson — pre-plastic surgery! It was terrible." While Tenpachi is not actually as bad as some like to claim, the best option, the best bangs for your buck, is right around the corner. **Tricho Studio's** staff is well-trained and professional, plus they never overcharge for quality haircuts. A standard male haircut goes for about \$14 and girls will pay about \$18. Tricho's also great if you're a guy in need of a quick cut or a girl whose hair needs styling 30 minutes before a formal.

— Brendan Schreiber

Best Shoe Store

Ma Petite Shoe

832 W. 36th St.
(410) 235-3442

Ma Petite Shoe overcomes its tragically precious name by offering up the ultimate double-indulgence: fancy shoes and gourmet chocolate. And while chocolate is all well and good, and this chocolate is even quite well and better, it's the oh-so-gorgeous shoes that will leave you swooning and give you something to think about on lonely nights. Eclectic, chic, architectural; you can imagine them on your feet, complementing your most Euro-cool outfit, the strap crossing just so, and you just have to have them — and then, what's that? Is that the price tag? And you can't possibly afford them? In a million years? So consider yourself forewarned — these are (sigh) not cheap. But, hey, think of it this way: If these shoes could speak, it would probably be in French, and they'd probably break your poor little heart. And the next week you'd see them on the feet of that girl, the really empty, spoiled one who tries too hard to be quirky and unique, and who buys all the really good expensive stuff before it ever gets a chance to go on sale and trickle down to the rest of us. You know who you are, girl. Stay away from my shoes.

— Maha Jafri

Best Vintage Store

Galvanize

927 W. 36th St.
(410) 889-5237

Though The Avenue in Hampden is lined with shops offering retro fare, **Galvanize** is the one that crams the most polyester button-downs and tweed skirts into its one and a half floors (part of the lower level of the store offers an assortment of furniture, decorations and old records). The selection at Galvanize is eclectic, ranging from glitzy dresses from the 1980s, to velvet and tweed blazers, to blouses and skirts that were once popular with 1950s housewives. Accessories, including newsboy and pill-box hats, unique belts that could have been worn by hippies at Woodstock and an assortment of jewelry that you just won't find at a mall, are stuffed into every possible empty space in the store.

And, fantastically enough, there's an extensive collection of decade-spanning purses, ranging from sparkly clutches to intricately embossed leather bags. There's plenty of stuff for vintage-loving guys too, most notably a bunch of perfectly weathered and worn-in leather jackets, old-man cardigans reminiscent of Mister Rogers and made cool by Kurt Cobain and, for the really brave, an extensive assortment of plaid pants. The prices are reasonable, and a lot of the price tags are currently reduced for the "We're Moving" sale. But, never fear, Galvanize isn't leaving us for another town — it's just relocating right across the street in early May. The only catch is that Galvanize is only open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, but it's the kind of store well-suited for a weekend afternoon spent scavenging the bins of silk scarves and piles of Levis.

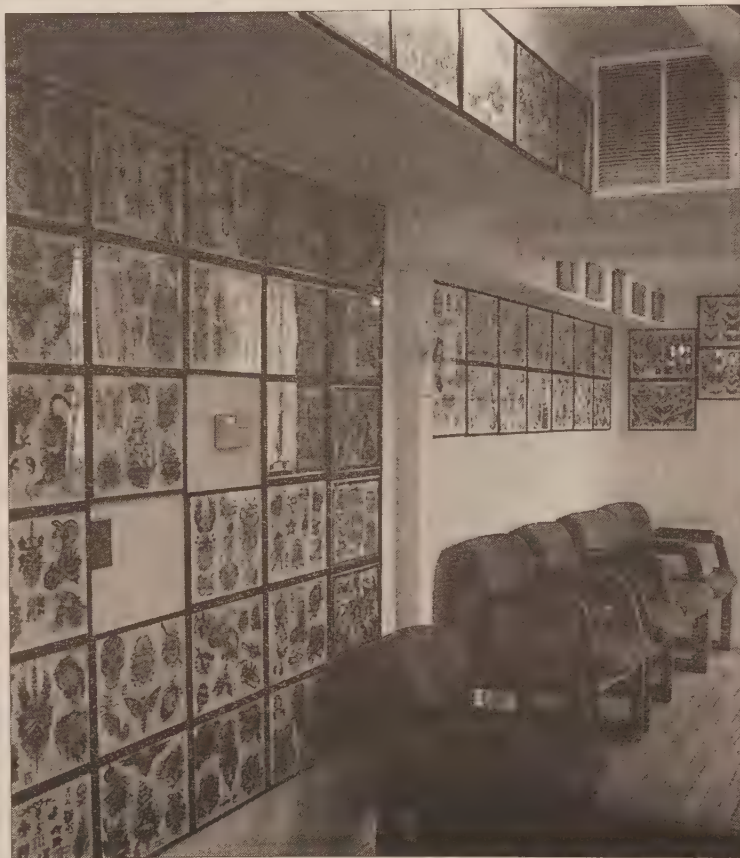
— Melissa Artnak

Best Tattoo Parlor

Baltimore Tattoo Museum

1534 Eastern Ave.
(410) 522-5800

Located in Fell's Point, the **Baltimore Tattoo Museum** is the perfect place to get inked or pierced. The staff is extremely friendly, greeting first-timers and those whose skin is already ink laden as they enter this museum/tattoo parlor. The sign behind the counter reads: "Think. It's permanent." So if you need some time to think about whether or not a tattoo is for you, take a stroll through the museum, which really only consists of a few rooms. The museum



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Saints and Sinners offers professional piercing in a pristine establishment.

showcases the history of tattoo art, as well as some of the most interesting and best-designed tattoos. The intermittent buzzing in the background is an indicator of the popularity of this place; the Baltimore Tattoo Museum is a busy place, so you can often hear more than one person getting inked. The staff is large in number at the Baltimore Tattoo Museum, which means it is easy to find a tattoo artist whose art you like. This place aims to please, so if they don't have what you want, just ask and they will design it for you.

However, if you don't like it, don't get it. It's permanent, so shop around at various tattoo parlors before deciding on one. The Baltimore Tattoo Museum is a good place to get ideas, even if you don't end up getting a tattoo there.

— Sarah Rivard

Best Piercing Place

Saints and Sinners

1610 Thames St.
(410) 276-1300

The first time I went to **Saints & Sinners** in Fell's Point, I felt especially bold that I was a Hopkins student on an expedition for a body pierc-

ing. For us, half of the thrill was just the sound of the trip itself — a piercing place! It sounded exotic and dangerous and, well, risky. I was disappointed when the juxtaposition between the piercing parlor and our polo shirts wasn't really there. Saints and Sinners shines like a doctor's office.

The walls are decorated with their prize-winning tattoo designs, and from behind a neatly maintained display case of sparkly body jewelry, the owners silently work on new tattoo designs. My apartment looks a lot more suspicious than this den of body mutilation.

Just how professional is it? When I returned to hold my friend's hand as she got something unmentionable pierced, the technician looked like he could have been knitting a cross stitch. He could've cared less who we were and how squeamish my friend was — he unwrapped the instruments from their sterilized paper cases, calmly explained how it works, and went to town. The staff as a whole is relatively friendly and receptive to follow-up questions, and their prices are reasonable.

Just don't go expecting a rush in the piercing trip itself. For Saints & Sinners, it's all in a day's work.

— Francesca Hansen

Best Class

Social Psychology

Since there are so many different ways to measure this category, this decision will be based on two of the most important criteria: fairness and fun. Many Hopkins courses are hopelessly devoid of both, but there are a precious few courses that will not give you a premature ulcer and actually feature entertaining professors and interesting material. One in particular that has grown in popularity over the past few years is **Social Psychology**, taught by Dr. Stephen Drigotas.

The class is not curved, which means everybody has the chance to do well if they make the effort. Attending class and paying attention is enough to do well, and it won't even feel like a chore with Drigotas' ability to hold your attention.

Drigotas' lectures are always concise and to-the-point, and feature a fair share of funny anecdotes. Whether explaining why groups riot or why students use their peers as measuring sticks for how hard to study, he uses personal stories that will stick with you and help in recalling the information later (this comes in handy around test time). It is by no means an easy A, given the huge amount of material, but very few students finish the class with poor grades.

— Jon Zimmer

Best Hopkins Stereotype

The School of Arts and Crafts

There are oh-so-many stereotypes about Hopkins students. We're cut-throat, we're lame, we're all excited to reach doctorhood eventually and practice by wearing lab coats to class.

Obviously these yarns have some basis in truth, but there's one stereotype that is particularly irksome: that which acrimoniously nicknames the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences the 'School of Arts and Crafts,' in comparison to the grand factory of intellect and progress that is the School of Engineering. Talk about petty.

Admittedly some courses in some departments are going to be easier than others, but why pick on students touting physics or neuroscience majors, labeling their passions joke-worthy crafts? Moreover, this stereotype figures that arts and crafts are easy. Not so. Some of us would rather write umpteen pages than risk injury at the hands of uncontrollable knitting needles.

That said, the craftiest of the crafty in

the Kreiger School have decided to embrace the irony in calling a Hopkins education a cakewalk and proudly donning 'Arts and Crafts' t-shirts — homemade of course. They refuse to buy into peer pressure that proclaims that he or she who enjoys life the least is the winner. Engineering is hard. Agreed. Want a prize? You'll get one. It's called a diploma.

— Gina Callahan

Best Guest Speaker

General Wesley Clark (Ret.)

Washington, D.C. generally dwarfs Baltimore's lineup of guest speakers on a daily basis, mainly because many of Charm City's speakers work in D.C. Nonetheless, Baltimore has played host to a relatively strong list of politicians, comedians and various officials, among others.

For instance, Bill Clinton has been known to stop in Baltimore several times in the past few years. The Foreign Affairs and Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium here at Hopkins have brought many of the most well-known guests to Baltimore, including Ralph Nader, Maya Angelou and Dr. Ruth Westheimer.

Retired General and candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination **Wesley Clark** proved this to be true, filling Shriver Hall in September to kick off the 2004 MSE Symposium. Though dipping into the partisan toolkit at times — it was, after all, late in the campaign season — Clark captivated an audience of nearly 1,000 students, faculty and community members with his optimism and depth of understanding regarding the American political landscape.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

An Arts and Sciences student proudly wears a self-mocking t-shirt.



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

Vice-Dean Paula Burger continues to be an advocate for the students.

Best Administrator

Paula Burger

In a year that has not seen the administration at their peak, Vice Dean of Undergraduate Education Paula Burger continues to distinguish herself as an even-handed and thoughtful ambassador to students.

Burger has assumed the responsibility of explaining the school's recent efforts to increase security both on and off campus and has managed to make herself constantly available to students, along with other administrators, to speak about the matter.

Along with John Bader, Burger helped redefine the intersession experience for students, pulling away from traditional graded classes in hopes of allowing students the opportunity to expand their horizons without fear of affecting their GPA.

Her finest moment came during the groundbreaking for the Charles Commons Project (of which she is also in charge). Burger's opening speech detailed the lack of community that Hopkins has faced for years and outlined her hopes that Charles Commons would have a chance to reverse that trend — standard administration boilerplate for the most part, had it not been juxtaposed by a terrible speech by President Brody, which he read word for word, never looking up at the audience.

Burger's effort and immense regard for students is never in question. It doesn't hurt that she's always made herself available to the *News-Letter* for a strong quote, either.

— Maany Peyvan

Best HopCop

Roy Hilton

While droves of students sat down and watched the Super Bowl early this month, few realized that a member of the Hopkins community has a NFL Championship ring of his own: Hop Cop Roy Hilton. The amicable Hop Cop, who can often be found patrolling the Athletic Center, was a world class athlete himself 30 years ago.

Hilton was a ferocious defensive end in his day and played for a 1971 Baltimore Colts club that won Super Bowl V by a score of 16-13 over the Dallas Cowboys. Not only did Hilton get himself a ring, he was a major factor in the victory, sacking NFL legend Roger Staubach twice and pressuring him on four other occasions. Hilton was also a part of the Colts' heartbreaking loss in Super Bowl III to an upstart New York Jets team led by quarterback Joe Namath.

Hilton proved to be the perfect

Mrs. D greets everyone who enters the Depot with a smile and a hello and has been known to compliment people's outfits, to ask how students' studies are coming along and to be all around so upbeat



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER
Dolores Parker, smiling as always.

that your spirits are guaranteed to be lifted after having a conversation with her. Her presence alone makes you forget about the questionable hot dogs in the back of the Depot.

"You can be stressed out and in a rush and Mrs. D's kindness just makes the day seem better," said sophomore Katrina Escuro.

"She's amazing," said sophomore Nikita Gupta. "She's so friendly, always smiling, very grandmotherly."
—Katherine Brewer

Best Alum

Woodrow Wilson

Maybe he didn't study on D-Level or hang out at PJs. Unlike Bloomberg, our esteemed alum who is the mayor of New York City, Wilson wasn't president of Phi Psi, but he was a brother in the frater-



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.MIAMI.EDU](http://www.miami.edu)
Woodrow Wilson, our best alum.

nity while he attended Princeton. This alum went on from Hopkins to

become president of the United States. You probably didn't know that he attended Hopkins because most people only talk about the time he spent at Princeton. But like Madeline Albright, Michael Bloomberg and Wes Craven, Woodrow Wilson was a Blue Jay. He donned his cap and gown in 1886 as he received a Ph.D. in political science, making him the only U.S. president to have a Ph.D.

After leaving Hopkins he went on to bigger and better things, namely, running the country. Wilson went on to advocate for the foundation of the League of Nations and pushed for

making the world safe for democracy. For his efforts, he became one of the many Hopkins alums to win a Nobel Prize, his being the peace prize. After graduating from Hopkins and going on to solve world problems, Wilson was never forgotten in Baltimore. He literally left his mark at Hopkins when he carved his initials into an oak table in the history department.

Hopkins isn't going to forget about him any time soon, as freshmen for years to come will live in his namesake, the Wilson House in AMR I.

— Sarah Rivard



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER
It's not much to look at now, but soon this area will be sweet dorms.

Best Reason Not to Transfer

The Future

For Johns Hopkins University and its surrounding neighborhoods, the future has never looked brighter. With the \$75 million Charles Commons residential complex set to be finished by August 2006, university officials and urban developers are finally acknowledging what Hopkins students have known for decades: that Charles Village kind of sucks. While the area is full of history, and bursting with culture and academia, let's face it's no Harvard square. The new building will feature dorm rooms, a dining hall, a new bookstore and a café, all with the goal of improving the quality of life for students. Also, Hopkins will be working with developers Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse Inc. to provide Charles Village with more of a "collegetown" atmosphere by bringing student-friendly stores and restaurants to the adjacent block of 33rd Street.

So Hopkins students, rest assured that things will only be improving in the next few years. Unless you are an upperclassman, in which case, you're basically getting screwed.

— Jason Farber



COURTESY OF ROY HILTON

Hilton, the Cop with the best ring.

complement for Bubba Smith, who manned the other defensive end position for those powerful Colts teams of the early '70s.

—Jon Zimmer

Best Service with a Smile

Dolores Parker
Wolman Depot

Dolores Parker, or Mrs. D to many of her customers, is one of the friendliest, kindest women on the Hopkins campus. She is often working at the Depot until 3 a.m. and is without fail cheerful and nice to drunk students who have the munchies or people who are just hanging out in the Wolman lobby.

"She's the best. She actually knows my name," said sophomore Mike Scavelli. "She has a great sense of humor."

Best Place to Procrastinate

Milton S. Eisenhower Library

Sure, the library might seem like an ironic choice for best place to procrastinate. When was the last time you went to MSE, screwed around for an hour, and went home... just proud that you'd spent an hour at the library? It's easy to sit on M-level and waste time by watching people file in and out, or to head down to D-level and try to crush people in the moveable stacks (we think it's impossible, unfortunately). You can check sports scores and annoy people who are waiting to use the computer for academic purposes, or browse through the library's DVD collection—they actually have some good ones. And the best part is, when you fail a test the next day, you can say, "But I spent so much time at the library last night!"

— Jason Farber

Best A Cappella Group

Mental Notes

Of all the things Hopkins lacks, it defi-

nately is not lacking in a cappella. Groups typically perform on campus once each semester, and students carefully choose which concerts to attend, since most take place in the last few weeks of the semester, when finals and research paper due dates are looming.

Whenever you tear yourself away from your favorite cubicle in the library for a few hours of entertainment, it's likely that you're looking to forget your scholastic woes by taking in an all-around show, complete with great vocals (which all of the groups can offer), a little dancing, a few humorous skits and crazy costumes.

The **Mental Notes** are the best bet to fulfill all of these desires. There are quite a few people with great voices in the group. Their costumes are creative: they donned towels and bathrobes in the fall semester, aluminum foil for their tenth anniversary concert last spring and have also worn bright Hawaiian shirts.

While each a cappella group has its own loyal fans, in part depending on their brand of music, the **Mental Notes** put on the best show. Their singing and comedic abilities are worth a Saturday night.

— Robin Shaw



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER

The staff of *Epidemic Proportions* puts out an accessible science journal.

Best Campus Publication (other than the News-Letter)

Epidemic Proportions

If there is one science department that we should expect to be capable of mobilizing and producing something clever, that department is the half-scientific, half-social science band of dogooders we call public health majors. *Epidemic Proportions* produced its first issue this past fall, and as resident campus compulsive free-magazine-reader, I would feel remiss not giving the Public Healthers appropriate props for their achievement.

Not only is *Epidemic Proportions* a beautiful publication, but it's a science journal that is actually readable. Its pages are filled with testimonials by undergraduates about the work they do and why they care about it. These kids go to China to study AIDS. They traipse the country hunting diseases and statistical research like private eyes. Reading this mag is like talking to someone whom you can tell is genuinely interested in what they study, in a semi-dorky, but still touching sort of way. Public health majors aren't just pre-meds who were bullied into science by oppressive parents—they actually seem to care about their work. Oh, and did I mention that it's beautiful? *EP* is full-color and glossy, and someone has been taking some great photos for them. In addition, the department seems to have someone who knows them some sweet layout design, or at least someone who is really good at faking it.

— Robbie Whelan

Best Hopkins Theater Performance

Johns Hopkins Barnstormers' 2004 Fall Mainstage — *Blithe Spirit*

The Barnstormers, Witness, and Dunbar Baldwin Hughes have produced a number of exceptional plays over the past semester; choosing just one to highlight seems almost unfair. However, the Barnstormers' fall mainstage, *Blithe Spirit*, seems to be the obvious choice for special recognition.

The cast and crew collaborated beautifully to produce one of the most professional theater productions seen at Hopkins. Written by Noel Coward, *Blithe Spirit* is about a middle-aged writer, Charles (Jason Maur), who finds himself caught between the two loves of his life after a kooky medium conjures the ghost of his first wife, Elvira (Michelle Lesifko). Director Troy Miller and his talented cast brought Coward's characters to life, albeit with somewhat forced British accents.

While all of the actors were fabulous, Ben Kingsland, in the gender-bending role of Madame Arcati, stole the show. His wild energy infused the other actors with similar enthusiasm and made Arcati a truly unforgettable character.

In this play, the set becomes a crucial member of the cast, and here, too, the production team exceeded expectations. Set designer Kay Starr helped transport the audience into the world of the play, including them in the family's parlor by placing a couch among the first row of seats.

As an added treat, technical director Nathaniel Jones rigged the set to be ransacked by two invisible ghosts during the play's final scene.

— Courtney Rice

Best News-Letter Alum

Russell Baker came to Hopkins at an odd time in history. Most guys sitting next to him in class had fought in World War II, and some of them were pushing their late twenties. It would have seemed a very different university to any of us. And from the way Baker describes it in his memoir *The Good Times*, it was a very different *News-Letter*. The *N-L*'s editors could "speak with authority about the shrines of Kyoto and the whorehouses of Naples," and they "had a taste for the raffish". Baker went on from his managing editor position to an illustrious career in journalism, but he started off hating the field. He thought novelists were the only real men, and that journalists were poor excuses for writers. With this in mind, he started out as a cub police reporter at *The Baltimore Sun*, and eventually made his way up the ladder to correspondence positions in London and Washington, D.C. Eventually he was hired as a columnist for *The New York Times*, where he wrote about humor, society, food, wine and anything else that came to his quick, witty mind. But those were different times, and these days, the kind of success that Baker stumbled into in the journalism world is pursued through internships with cutthroat energy by psychotic writing majors, foaming at the mouth and brandishing resumes and writing samples menacingly. Baker did so well because he saw journalism for what it really is, or at least what it really was then—a refuge for knuckleheads with nothing better to do. By personifying the journalistic spirit as well as success in the field, the *News-Letter* proudly salutes Russell Baker. May his mediocrity inspire us all to better lots in life!

— Robbie Whelan

Best Sports Team

Hopkins Baseball

This award could go to men's lacrosse every year, but we want to give it to Hopkins' other No. 1. ranked team. The **baseball team** remained atop the American Baseball Coaches Association Collegiate Baseball poll from Mar. 29 to May 25, winning their fourth-straight Centennial Conference championship in the process. To add to their list of impressive feats, the Blue Jays also became the first team in Centennial history to have a perfect 18-0 conference record, as well as the first Hopkins team to ever win four consecutive Centennial titles.

Also, their 33-0 start is believed to be the best start in Division III baseball history. Unfortunately, Hopkins suffered a disappointing loss to Rowan College in the final round of the Mideast Regional tournament, dropping their end of the season ranking to No. 7. Hopkins ace Matt Righter, who finished the season with a 7-1 record and was selected by the Detroit Tigers in the 21st round of the Major League Baseball draft, is currently playing for the West Michigan Whitecaps, the Tigers' class-A affiliate.

— Jason Farber

Best Rec. Center Activity

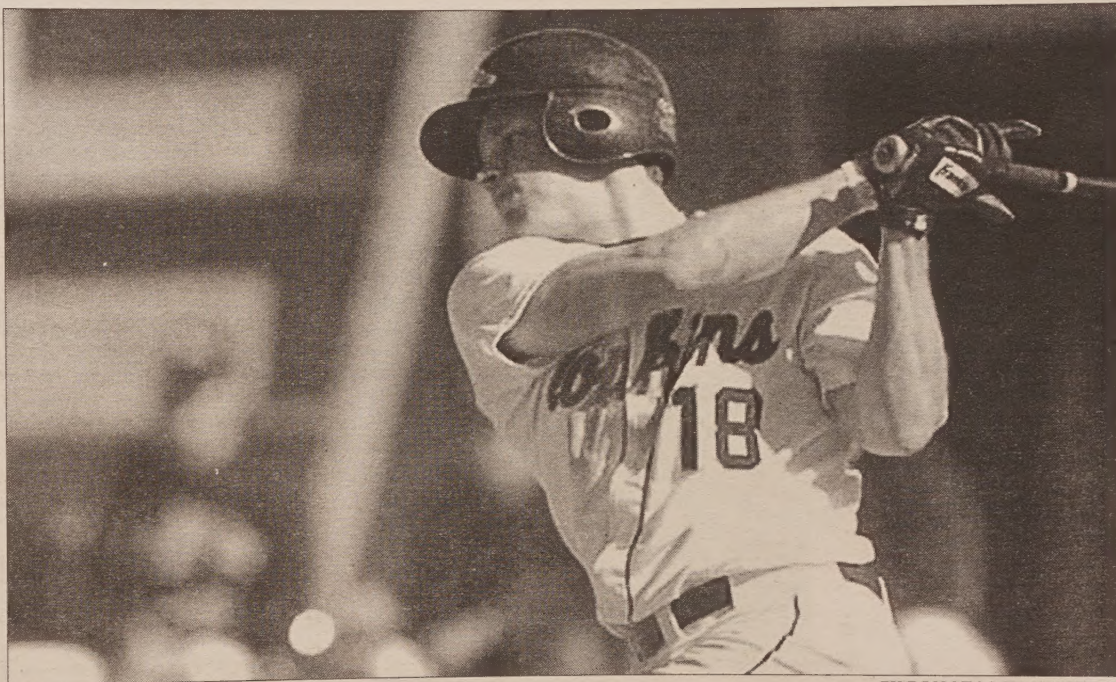
Climbing Wall

Fans of maintaining a physical regimen may have had little trouble keeping their exercise goals intact over Intersession. It isn't hard to go home for several weeks and find a basketball court, a weight room, an indoor track, a plethora of exercise machines or a racquetball court, most often conveniently located at a community center or at a nearby gym. What is often found missing, however, is a one-of-a-kind **climbing wall**.

The climbing wall, located at the Rec. Center, is by far one of the more unique offerings, and thus the one to really take advantage of while you are here. Using the climbing wall is simple; courses are offered three times a week on how to belay, or if the student wishes, he may learn on his own. The belay test is all you need to know to get yourself certified to climb to your heart's content.

The friendly student staff is more than happy to let you rent a pair of climbing shoes for the meager price of \$1, as well as allow you to borrow a carabiner and a harness, free of charge. Don't be intimidated by upper-level students — many arrive at Hopkins with no prior climbing skills. It's difficult to miss the climbing wall as you walk in, so make sure you try it at least once.

— William Parschall



FILE PHOTO/NEWS-LETTER

Senior infielder Paul Long contributed to the overwhelming success of the Blue Jays baseball team last season.

Best Male Athlete

Kyle Harrison

First team all-American and senior co-captain of the most successful team on campus, Kyle Harrison is an easy pick for best male athlete.

A native Baltimorean, Harrison had a standout career at Friends school, a few blocks up Charles Street. There he excelled in the game of lacrosse, as well as basketball and soccer, and became a prime recruit early on in his high-school career.

"I'm very family oriented, so when Coach Pietramala and his coaching staff showed interest, I pretty much had my mind made up," Harrison said. "There's no better place to play lacrosse in the world than Hopkins, and being from Baltimore is an added bonus, because I get to play in front of my friends and family every weekend."

Since freshman year Harrison has been a member of Hopkins' first midfield unit, as well as the top face-off man for the team.

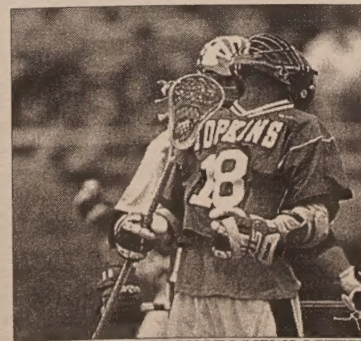
Freshman year he was sixth in the nation in face-off winning percentage and 12th in the nation in groundballs per game. Sophomore and junior year Harrison was selected as one of the five finalists for the most prestigious award in lacrosse, the Tewaaraton Award. That year he finished sixth in the nation in scoring and eighth in the nation in face-off winning percentage. He led Hopkins in ground ball pickup.

Last year, in addition to receiving first team AA status, Harrison won

the McLaughlin Award as the nation's top midfielder. He had career high 26 goals on the season and again he ranked first on the team in groundball pickup.

"Everyone on this team works so hard and everyone deserves credit and it's a great honor to be one of the captains on this team," he said. "To be considered one of the leaders at the most prestigious lacrosse program in the country is a pretty unbelievable feeling."

— Claire Koehler



FILE PHOTO/NEWS-LETTER

Kyle Harrison, best male athlete.

Best Female Athlete

Mary Key

Preseason first team all-American Mary Key is only a sophomore, but this Maryland resident has proved her athleticism early on in her Hopkins career. Key led the women's lacrosse team last season with 52 goals and 22 assists. Her total combined 74 points set the

school Division I record for points in a season. Key started all 17 games on attack, and she led Hopkins or tied for the team lead in goals in nine of those games. She was selected for the American Lacrosse Conference (ALC) First Team and won *Inside Lacrosse* Player of the Week twice during the season after breakthrough games. Key led the conference and was ninth in Division I in points per game, 4.35.

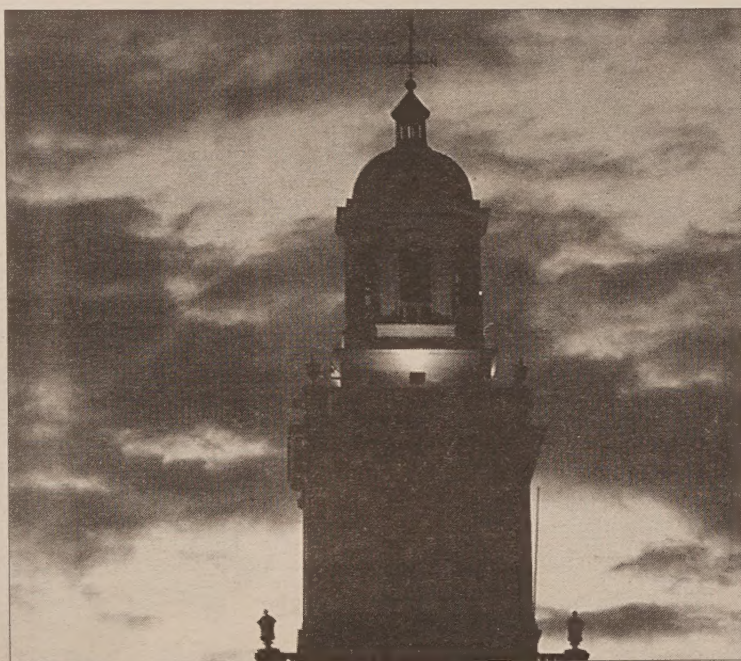
At the end of freshman year Key earned second-team AA honors after leading all freshmen in Division I in points and goals per game. Key was also named Co-Rookie of the Year by www.womanslacrosse.com. At St. Mary's of Annapolis, Key was a two-time first team all-American as well as Capital Athlete of the Year and County Player of the Year in 2003. She was her team's MVP and her school's Athlete of the Year also in 2003.

— Claire Koehler



FILE PHOTO/NEWS-LETTER

Mary Key, best female athlete.



ISHAI MOOREVILLE/NEWS-LETTER

Everyone knows Gilman is the queen mother of all campus buildings.

Best Campus Building

Gilman Hall

Everyone has a favorite building on campus and at least 10 different reasons to support their choice. Whether it's Building B for its close-knit crowd, Shriver and the myth behind the mural, or Bloomberg and its cold, yet state-of-the-art structure, everyone has different ideas and no one can seem to agree. With all the historical and architecturally stunning aspects of the buildings on campus — the Mattin Center, Homewood House, and the ever-present student favorite, the Homewood Outhouse — designating the title of "Best Campus Building" to just one of them is a tough job. However, the title must go to the queen mother of all buildings: **Gilman Hall**.

Designed by Douglas Thomas in 1913 in the style of the Homewood House, Gilman Hall was the first academic building on campus. The grand building, which originally housed all the classrooms, seminar rooms, offices and libraries dealing in the humanities, was named for the University's first president, Daniel Coit Gilman. Today, Gilman is still made up of classrooms and offices and is now home to a bank, a post office and, in the gut of the building, the bookstore. Though the campus has expanded since its construction, Gilman still remains a central point. Students know and love Gilman for its endless (and on rainy days, perilous) staircases, the cozy Hutzler Reading Room, the plush leather sofas, the numerous languages spoken throughout

the hallways, the bell tower, and the classroom just below the bell tower that boasts one of the best views of Baltimore. Though it is one of the more obvious choices for Best Building, Gilman, in all its red-brick glory, is the most deserving of the title.

— Alex Begley

Best Classroom

Maryland 114

In classrooms, as in people, personality goes a long way. The best classroom at Hopkins isn't necessarily the newest or the best equipped — it's the one that makes you the happiest, in a harsh and uncaring academic world. Its desks are old, and the lighting dim, but the best classroom at Hopkins is **Maryland 114**, a comforting, unfurnished old shoe of a classroom, and it epitomizes the old glory of our research institution. The first thing you notice upon entering are the chalkboards. Most shoebox classrooms have the traditional rectangle, for professors that are comfortable not fully expressing themselves in class. Ah, but Maryland 114 is encircled by chalkboards, even where it seems impossible to have a writing space. Why? Because when Maryland was built, Hopkins was an institution of superb brilliant upperclassmen with mad science professors. These professors flailed their arms, wild with excitement over cutting edge physics, and wrote wherever they felt like it. The builders of Maryland Hall, realizing this, had to put chalkboard everywhere, because

the professors were going to write on the walls anyway. Detailed with nice oak paneling, the blackboards give an essence that whiteboards and their toxic marker smell will never give. Up in the corner is a TV, possibly circa 1947. Alone on a small shelf in the corner it sits, the dust about two inches deep, making Philo Farnsworth proud. Perhaps it was used as an emergency broadcast of the invasion of Pearl Harbor?

Now, it's true that I couldn't tell you what classes I actually had in this classroom, but it is by far Hopkins' finest. Maryland 114 is a comforting, old lady of a classroom, and she inspires the imagination. It makes one proud to be in a stuffy old research institution such as Hopkins.

— Francesca Hansen

Best Boys' Bathroom

Mattin Center

Bathrooms represent a plethora of words to men: the john, the crapper, the library, the local pool, the little boy's room, but most importantly, the throne.

To a man, the restroom is a place that he counts on to provide solitude and allow deep meditation. Some men see it almost as a kingdom, where for several minutes they are in charge. No one can take that away, save for one thing: the entrance of another man. While women look forward to the bathroom, among other obvious things, as a social center for gossip and discussion, men look forward to a bathroom as a silent room of contemplation. The reality that men see other males as invaders in their space is best proven by the fact that men do not talk to each other in the bathroom. Even an encounter with Sean Connery would at most get a respectful nod. Chances are James Bond is not utilizing the lavatories around campus, and so most male students go into a bathroom expecting to acknowledge no one. What better way then to cut out completely the possibility of interaction than by using a bathroom that allows only one person at a time? The **Mattin Center** provides several of these, right by the Digital Media Center, and also on the floor above the instrument practice rooms. Only one toilet, one sink, and best of all, one patron at a time, so no one may disrupt the mood of one's kingdom.

— William Parschalk

Best Girls' Bathroom

Gilman

Men have to get used to the awkward socialization after relieving themselves. We would rather not. In fact, the only socialization that consistently takes place

in women's bathrooms is catty gossip, which often has disastrous consequences when the wrong pair of shoes emerges from the stall. Any number of stalls greater than one is just too many. I almost hesitate to share with readers the best women's bathroom at Hopkins, because it is what I affectionately call, "the office." It's tucked away on the third floor of Gilman, across from history professor offices, on the southeast corner.

Almost claustrophobic, it allows you to walk in and lock the door to the Gilman hallway behind you. That's more privacy than the bathroom in my apartment. Only a half step further and you reach the stall. It's not exactly modern, but the hook is large enough for your coat or bag. (And there's really nothing more frustrating than a too-shallow hook that causes your things to slip off and fall onto the floor.) It's usually uncomfortably hot, but the privacy is priceless. And should you stumble upon a lover somewhere in this ancient building, and you're torn without a place to sneak away, you can now say, "Why don't we step into my office?"

— Francesca Hansen

Best Neighboring School

Maryland Institute, College of Art (MICA)

1300 Mount Royal Ave.
(410) 669-9200

Baltimore may not be the epitome of a booming college town, but Hopkins does have some neighbors down the road to visit when seeing the same faces every day as you walk in and out of MSE gets monotonous. For first-timers, **The Maryland Institute, College of Art (MICA)** offers a laid-back atmosphere, some unique architecture and a glimpse of a neighborhood other than Charles Village. The trek there couldn't be much easier; it's the next stop on the CollTown shuttle (unfortunately, only on weekends).

After that whopper of a bus ride, you'll find yourself amongst a couple of awesome mohawks, quite a few t-shirts scored from the nearby Salvation Army and a whole bunch of cool people hauling canvases and other creative works across campus. Check out MICA's Web site (<http://www.mica.edu>) and drop by for one of the many exhibitions open to the public or another campus-sponsored event.

A notable past offering was September's Rock the Vote Concert, which was a mellow outdoor mini-festival, complete with a couple of barefoot dancers in the crowd and a pick-up Frisbee game. So whether you want to check out the artwork of the students or just have a thing for the artsy type, make a trip to MICA.

— Melissa Artnak

Best Dorm

Royce

Every student thinks his or her freshman dorm was the best. The new found freedom of college, the late-night study sessions, the waiting in line for a shower — these are all fond memories that foster a sense of pride and belonging. Affording the title of 'Best Dorm' is really a personal endeavor, but one I will attempt to perform scientifically. First of all, the choice is narrowed down to the AMRs.

Sure, Wolman, McCoy and buildings A and B have private bathrooms, but the AMRs offer the social atmosphere that characterizes the true college experience. Kids leave their doors open, strangers meet on their way to the bathroom — it's the often awkward but always friendly environment that gives all the AMR dorms a leg up on the competition.

The best AMR dorm is, logically, the one that offers the best of both worlds — partying and bonding with friends while still having a clean, comfortable and pleasant-smelling place to live. That dorm is **Royce**.

Contrary to popular belief, Royce has all the benefits of any other AMR dorm. Both male and female freshmen congregate there for socializing and studying. Dorm-mates party together, share clothing, hold late-night cram sessions, etc.

What Royce *doesn't* have is the stench and grime that often characterize other AMR dorms — not to be sexist, but female students tend to be a bit less stinky and a bit more sanitary than the males. There is also a unique sense of pride and togetherness in this all-female dorm; they're Royce Girls for life, and sometimes they make corny t-shirts, too.

— Julianna Finelli

Best Campus Eatery

Terrace

Despite the jokes and whining from freshmen who think cooking their own dinners means heating up mac and cheese in the microwave, **Terrace** is the best option for those stuck on the meal plan. Spending points on a burger with the works at Megabytes or enjoying a burrito at Salsa Rico is just the easy way out. The true meal plan master seeks a challenge, a la The Iron Chef, and that ultimate challenge can be found in the cafeteria that most students love to hate.

Its salad bar alone offers enough options to create a different lettuce-based lunch every day for a week — plus, the dressings are now in clearly labeled containers, which eliminates any surprises

to your delicate taste buds. Unlike its sister cafeteria, Wolman Station, Terrace has a make-your-own-sandwich area, so you can decide upon how much mustard to spread on your wheat bread or the number of turkey slices that will sufficiently fill your stomach. As you know, the main lunch and dinner dishes vary each day, and though the tastiness factor has its high and low points, so did mom's home cooking that you feel so nostalgic for now. Even so, most days you can manage to put together a quality meal with a little ingenuity.

For the health-conscious, dessert can be found amongst apples, pears and bananas on what can only be described as the massive-mounds-of-fruit table. Those not afraid to splurge a little can enjoy anything from warm apple cobbler to chocolate layer cake — both of which are complemented very well by some frozen yogurt from the machine.

Depending on what day you dine at Terrace, you might be pleasantly surprised by one of its special events, which include everything from a cotton candy machine to a baked potato bar with all the fixings you could imagine.

— Melissa Artnak

Best Place to Study

The Hut

Sure the **Hut's** institutional, but not in that antiseptic way that still brand new, squeaky floors, absolutely no food allowed, Hodson Hall is or in that carefully planned, neatly arranged, windowless way that MSE is. No, the Hut is institutional in the "I'm a breathing part

of a grand academic institution" way. You feel smarter with your materials of knowledge sprawled out across one of the Hut's worn in tables than you do stuffed in a study box next to other study boxes stacked on top of other study boxes in MSE.

The Hut is less intimidating and less hierarchical than the multi-leveled library and perfect for a spare hour in between classes. It's not the spot to do research, really, or the spot to run into people you haven't seen in a while. It's more of a reading-curved-up-in-a-chair-as-the-sun-shines-through-majestic-stained-glass kind of place.

The Hut's the best in the same way that the less than amenable AMR's are the best. They're just old school.

— Gina Callahan

Best Place to Park

Behind Gilman in the lot adjacent to the Greenhouse

If you've ever experienced the draining feeling that accompanies your car getting towed for being parked illegally, you know why Fallsway Street in downtown should be renamed the boulevard of broken dreams. A trip to the parking lot on that street usually costs about \$200 as well as some sanity.

But what if there was a perfect parking spot — one so ideal that it would make George Costanza proud? And what if that parking spot was convenient and absolutely free?

Well, on a campus that is correctly faulted for being unfriendly to cars, the perfect parking spot exists. Be-

hind Gilman Hall and next to the Greenhouse sits a small parking lot filled almost entirely with spots reserved for permit parking. But amid these reserved spots is an oasis of parking meters with a 60-minute time limit. One of those metered spots — you'll have to figure out which one — always has sixty minutes remaining on the timer.

Nevermind paying, the lucky driver who gets this winning spot never has to move, which can present some problems.

But be on the lookout for the only spot on campus where you can park for free every hour of every day of the week. Of course, we can't guarantee that they won't fix this meter one day.

But in the meantime, set your sights on the Greenhouse lot and see if you can nab the perfect spot.

— Eric Ridge

Best Thing to Do in the Library

It

They're almost daring you to do it. What, with all those empty study rooms, dark corners and aisles that go unseen for days at a time.

The building is underground for crying out loud.

If that doesn't suggest anything to you, maybe a copy of *Inferno* will fall out of the stacks and hit you on the head next time you're hooking up on D-Level.

The first thing you should know is that sex in the library is rampant.

I'm surprised people aren't afraid of contracting STDs when they watch movies in the AV center.

Ask any librarian and they'll have a story for you: the guy who came out of the study room with his shirt buttons not lined up, the couple who shared a study room and seemed to have *all* their classes together during finals, the girl coming out of the bathroom with a huge vibrator sticking out of her purse. All right, maybe not that last one.

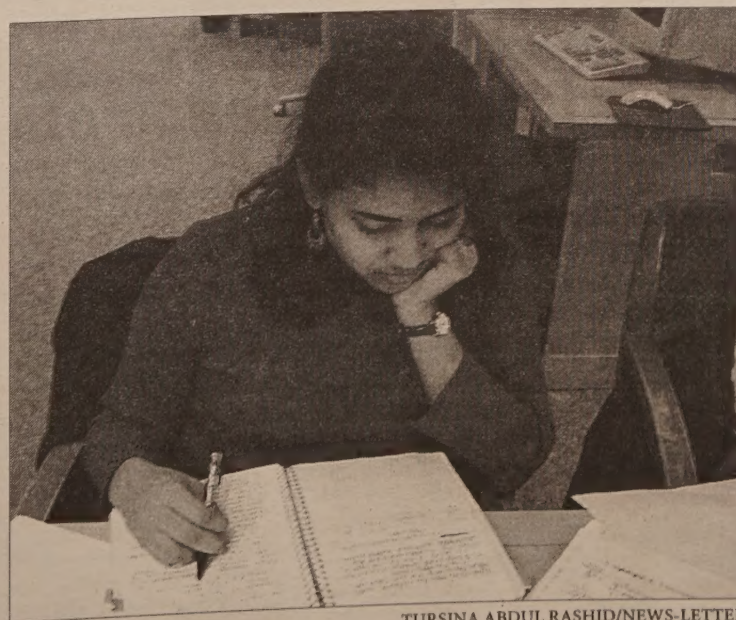
If you've got a willing partner, don't let anything stop you. Hooking up in the library is the coolest thing you can possibly do at this university. Read that sentence again.

It may be a depressing, sad state of affairs, but it's true.

What better way to define your Hopkins career than capping it off with a Bacchanalian sordid sex romp.

Seniors, get cracking. I hear those study rooms have to be reserved during finals week.

— Anonymous



TURSINA ABDUL RASHID/NEWS-LETTER

Students like junior Sadiya Muqueeth use MSE Library for its intended purpose. Others take advantage of secluded study rooms and quiet bathrooms.

The BEST
Music
in Town

FREE Post
Concert
Party!

And a Few
Hundred
New Friends

All yours for...

\$10

Per concert, with
valid ID.



College NIGHTS

at the BALTIMORE
SYMPHONY

...And Great
FREE FOOD
from
TRADER JOE'S
and



MIX & MINGLE with BSO Musicians, friends and people you're just destined to meet!
\$1 BEERS for students with photo ID (21 or older)
ENTER TO WIN tickets and incredible prizes!

HERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO
SAVE ON GREAT BSO MUSIC!

5 Concerts for **\$25**



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
www.baltimoresymphony.org/students

UPCOMING COLLEGE NIGHTS:

COPLAND & GERSHWIN

FRI, MARCH 4, 8 PM

Eri Klas, conductor
Arnaldo Cohen, piano

Smetana: Overture to *The Bartered Bride*
Gershwin: Concerto in F
Copland: *Appalachian Spring*
Tchaikovsky: *Capriccio italien*



AMADEUS!

with BOBBY McFERRIN

THUR, MARCH 31, 8 PM

Audience favorite Bobby McFerrin returns
and is joined by Christopher O'Riley, host
of the public radio program *From the Top*.
They'll join the BSO for a night Mozart
greats. Lobby opens at 6:30 for live jazz.



410-783-8000

www.baltimoresymphony.org/collegenight

JOSEPH MEYERHOFF SYMPHONY HALL ~ CATHEDRAL AND PRESTON STREETS, BALTIMORE

TICKET OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 10 AM - 6 PM, SATURDAY-SUNDAY NOON - 5 PM